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# THE NEW DRILL REGULATIONS FOR INFANTRY.

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PREPARED BY THE BOARD APPOINTED JANUARY 18,  
1888, TO REVISE THE SYSTEM OF DRILL  
FOR THE ARMY AND THE MILITIA  
OF THE UNITED STATES

AND

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR,  
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The extracts that follow from the new "Drill Regulations," adopted by the War Department, include the "*School of the Soldier*," and the "*School of the Company*," paragraphs 1 to 248, and the "*Extended Order*," for Company, Battalion and Regiment, paragraphs 502 to 621. The battalion, regimental, brigade and corps drills are omitted. These extracts are printed from a copy of the "Drill Regulations" as revised and adopted by the War Department and sent to the Public Printer. All previous publications have been from the Regulations before their revision by the War Office, and they are full of errors, omissions, and other departures from the authorized text. Messrs. D. Appleton & Co. will publish an edition of the complete Regulations as soon as possible, and they have put the portion here given at once in type to accommodate the readers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. It is not expected that the Government edition will be ready for distribution until after the close of the present year. This can be accepted with entire confidence as a copy of the Regulations as authorized by the War Department for publication.—EDITOR ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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# Drill Regulations for Infantry U. S. Army.

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## DEFINITIONS.

*Alignment*—A straight line, upon which several men or bodies of troops are formed, or are to be formed.

*Base*—The unit on which a movement is regulated; as, base file, company, or battalion.

*Center*—The middle point or element of a command; as, the center file, company, etc.

*Column*—A formation in which the elements are placed one behind another, whether these elements are files, fours, platoons, companies or larger bodies.

*Deploy*—To extend the front; as, to pass from column into line.

*Depth*—The space from head to rear of any formation, including the leading and rear elements.

The depth of one man is taken as 12 inches.

*Disposition*—The distribution of the fractions of a body of troops, and the formations and duties assigned to each, for the accomplishment of a common end.

*Distance*—An open space in the direction of depth.

The distance between ranks in the same unit is measured from the breast of the man in rear to the back of the man in front.

The distance between two subdivisions in column is measured in like manner from guide to guide.

Between two commands in column, one in rear of the other, each comprising several fractions, the distance is measured from the rear guide of the command that is in front to the leading guide of the following command.

*Drill*—The exercises and evolutions taught on the drill ground and executed in the precise and formal manner prescribed.

*Echelon*—In the order in echelon the subdivisions are placed one behind another, extending beyond and unmasking one another, either wholly or in part.

In battle formation, this term is also employed to designate the different elements or lines in the direction of depth. Example: The first *echelon*, the firing line; the *second echelon*, the support, etc.

*Evolution*—A movement executed by several battalions for the purpose of passing from one formation to another.

*Facing Distance*—Sixteen inches; *i. e.*, the difference between the front of a man in ranks and his depth.

*File*—Two men, a front rank man and the corresponding man of the rear rank, whether placed one behind the other or side by side. *File Leader*—The front rank man of a file. A file is said to be blank when it has no rear rank man. When troops are in one rank, the men are frequently termed files.

*File Closers*—Officers, or non-commissioned officers posted two paces in rear of the line; it is their duty to rectify mistakes and to insure steadiness and promptness in the ranks.

*Flank*—The right or left of a command in line or column; also, the element on the right or left of a line.

In speaking of the enemy, one says "his right flank;" "his left wing," etc.; to indicate the flank or wing which the enemy would so designate.

*Flank Attack*—A movement made against the enemy's flank.

*Flankers*—Men so posted or marched as to protect the flank of a column.

*Flank March*—A march, whatever the formation, by which troops move along the front of the enemy's position.

*Formation*—Arrangement of the elements of a command. The placing of all the fractions in regular order in line, in column or for battle.

*Front*—The space in width occupied by a command, either in line or column.

In estimating the extent of the front, the space occupied by one man is taken at 28 inches, which includes the interval between files.

Front also denotes the direction of the enemy.

*Guard Advance*—A body of troops marching in front of a command to reconnoiter and to protect its march.

*Guard Rear*—A body of troops to protect the rear of a command.

*Guide*—An officer, non-commissioned officer or private upon whom the command regulates its march.

*Head*—The leading element of a column.

*Interval*—An open space between elements of the same line.

The interval between two men is measured from elbow to elbow; between two companies, squads, etc., from the left elbow of the left man or guide of the group on the right to the right elbow of the right man or guide of the group on the left.

*Left*—The left extremity or element of a body of troops.

*Line*—A formation in which the different elements are abreast of each other. When the elements are in column the formation is called a line of columns.

*Maneuver*—A movement made according to the nature of the ground with reference to the position and movement of the enemy.

*ORDER—Close*—The normal formation in which soldiers are regularly arranged in line or column.

*Extended*—The formation in which the soldiers, or the subdivisions, or both, are separated by intervals greater than in close order.

*Pace*—Thirty inches; the length of the full step in quick time.

In these regulations, intervals and distances that can be verified by pacing, are given in paces; those less than one pace, in inches; considerable distances, in yards.

*Ploy*—To diminish front; as, to ploy into close column.

*Point of Rest*—The point at which a formation begins.

*Rank*—A line of men placed side by side.

*Right*—The right extremity or element of a body of troops.

*Scouts*—Men detailed to precede a command on the march and forming for battle, to gather and report information concerning the enemy and the nature of the ground.

*Tactics*—The art of handling troops in the presence of the enemy, *i. e.*, applying on the battle field the movements learned at drill.



*Turning Movement*—An extended movement around the enemy's flank for the purpose of threatening or attacking his flank or rear.

*Wing*—The portion of a command between the center and the flank; the battalion is the smallest body which is divided into wings.

#### SIGNALS.

The following signals are used alone or in conjunction with verbal commands or trumpet calls. The whistle call to fix the attention may precede the signal.

In making the signals, the sword, rifle or head dress may be held in the hand; when the sword is so used it is in prolongation of the arm.

*Forward*—Raise the arm until horizontal, extended to the front; at the same time move to the front.

*Right Oblique*—Raise the arm until horizontal, extended obliquely to the right; at the same time move in that direction.

*Left Oblique*—Same to the left.

*By the Right Flank*—Raise the arm until horizontal, extended to the right; at the same time move to the right.

*By the Left Flank*—Same to the left.

*To the Rear*—Face to the rear, raise the arm until horizontal, extended to the rear; at the same time move to the rear.

*Change Direction to the Right or Left*—Raise the arm until horizontal, extended toward the marching flank, carrying the arm horizontally to the front and right; at the same time facing and moving in the direction to be taken.

*Skirmishers*—Raise both arms until horizontal, extended laterally.

*Halt*—Raise the arm vertically to its full extent.

*Assemble*—Raise the arm vertically to its full extent and slowly describe small horizontal circles.

*Rally*—Raise the arm vertically to its full extent and circle it very rapidly.

*Cease Firing*—A whistle call. This signal is also used to fix the attention.

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

1. All details, detachments and other bodies of troops will habitually be formed in double rank.

2. Movements that may be executed toward either flank are explained as toward but one flank, it being necessary to substitute the word "left" for "right," or the reverse, to have the command and explanation of the corresponding movement toward the other flank.

3. In movements where the guide may be either right or left, it is indicated in the command, thus: Guide (*right or left*).

4. All movement may be executed either from the halt, or when marching, if not otherwise prescribed.

5. Any movements, not specially excepted, may be executed in double time. If the movement be from the halt, or when marching in quick time, the command *double time* precedes the command **MARCH**; if marching in double time the command *double time* is omitted.

6. There are two kinds of commands:

The *preparatory* command, such as *forward*, indicates the movement that is to be executed.

The command of *execution*, such as **MARCH**, **HALT** or **ARMS**, causes the execution.

*Preparatory* commands are distinguished by *italics*, those of execution by **SMALL CAPITALS**.

Where it is not mentioned in the text who gives the commands prescribed they are the commands of the instructor.

The *preparatory* command should be given at such an interval of time before the command of execution

as to admit of its being properly understood; the command of *execution* should be given at the instant the movement is to commence.

The tone of command is animated, distinct, and of a loudness proportioned to the number of men under instruction.

Each *preparatory* command is pronounced in an ascending tone of voice, but always in such a manner that the command of execution may be more energetic and elevated.

The command of *execution* is pronounced in a firm and brief tone.

When giving commands to troops it is usually best to face toward them.

7. To secure uniformity, officers and non-commissioned officers are practiced in giving commands.

8. The signal and trumpet calls should be frequently used in instruction, in order that the officers and men may readily recognize them.

9. In the different schools, the posts of the officers and non-commissioned officers are specified, but as instructors they go wherever their presence is necessary.

#### SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER.

10. The object of this school is the instruction of the individual recruit and afterward that of the squad.

11. Short and frequent drills are preferable to long ones, which exhaust the attention of both instructor and recruit.

12. Generally, sergeants and corporals are the instructors under the supervision of an officer, but the captain occasionally requires the lieutenants to act as instructors.

13. The instructor will always maintain a military bearing and by a quiet, firm demeanor set a proper example to the men.

14. The instructor explains each movement in as few words as possible, at the same time executing it himself.

He requires the recruits to take by themselves the proper positions and does not touch them for the purpose of correcting them, except when they are unable to correct themselves; he avoids keeping them too long at the same movement, although each should be understood before passing to another. He exacts by degrees the desired precision and uniformity.

15. After the movements have been properly executed in the order laid down, the instructor no longer confines himself to that order.

16. As the instruction progresses the recruits will be grouped according to proficiency, in order that all may advance as rapidly as their abilities permit. Those who lack aptitude and quickness will be separated from the others and placed under experienced drill masters.

17. When the execution of a movement is improperly begun and the instructor wishes to begin it anew for the purpose of correcting it, he commands: *As you were*, at which the movement ceases and the former position is resumed.

#### *Individual Instruction Without Arms.*

18. For this instruction a few recruits, usually not exceeding four, are placed in a single rank, facing to the front, and about six inches apart, arranged according to height, the tallest man on the right.

19. To teach the recruits how to assemble, the instructor requires them to close the left hand and place the knuckles against the waist, above the hip, wrist straight, back of the hand to the front; he then places them on the same line so that the right arm of each man rests lightly against the left elbow of the man next on his right, and then directs the left hands to be replaced by the side. The men thus find themselves

with an interval that allows for a free movement of the arms.

20. When the recruits have learned how to take their places, they are required to assemble without assistance. The instructor commands: **FALL IN.**

They assemble rapidly, as above prescribed, at attention, each man dropping the left hand as soon as the man next on his left has his interval.

#### *Position of the Soldier or Attention.*

21. Heels on the same line, and as near each other as the conformation of the man permits.

Feet turned out equally and forming with each other an angle of about sixty degrees.

Knees straight, without stiffness.

Body erect on the hips, inclining a little forward; shoulders square and falling equally.

Arms and hands hanging naturally, backs of the hands outward; little fingers opposite the seams of the trousers; elbows near the body.

Head erect and square to the front; chin slightly drawn in, without constraint; eyes straight to the front.

#### *The Rests.*

22. Being at a halt, to rest the men: **FALL OUT**; or, **REST**, or **AT EASE.**

At the command *fall out*, the men may leave the ranks but will remain in the immediate vicinity.

At the command *fall in*, they resume their former places.

At the command *rest*, the men keep one heel in place, but are not required to preserve silence nor immobility.

At the command *at ease*, the men keep one heel in place and preserve silence, but not immobility.

23. To resume the attention: 1. *Squad*, 2. **ATTENTION.**

The men take the position of the soldier and fix their attention.

24. 1. *Parade*, 2. **REST.**

Carry the right foot six inches straight to the rear, left knee slightly bent; clasp the hands in front of the center of the body, left hand uppermost, left thumb clasped by thumb and forefinger of right hand; preserve silence and steadiness of position.

To resume the position of the soldier: 1. *Squad*, 2. **ATTENTION.**

#### *To Dismiss the Squad.*

25. Being in line at a halt: **DISMISSED.**

#### *Eyes right or Left.*

26. 1. *Eyes*, 2. **RIGHT** (or **LEFT**), 3. **FRONT.**

At the command *right*, turn the head gently so as to bring the left eye in line with the center of the body, eyes fixed on the line of eyes of the men in, or supposed to be in the same rank.

At the command *front*, turn the head and eyes to the front.

The instructor sees that the movement does not derange the squareness of the shoulders.

#### *Facings.*

27. To the right or left: 1. *Right* (or *Left*), 2. **FACE.**

Raise slightly the right heel and left toe and face to the right, turning on the left heel, assisted by a slight pressure on the ball of the right foot; replace the right foot.

The facings to the left are also executed upon the left heel.

28. To the rear. 1. *About*, 2. **FACE.**

Raise slightly the left heel and right toe, face to the rear, turning to the right on the right heel and the ball of the left foot; replace the left foot beside the right.

#### *Salute With the Hand.*

29. 1. *Right* (or *Left*) *Hand*, 2. **SALUTE.**

Raise the right hand smartly till the forefinger touches the lower part of the head-dress above the right eye, thumb and fingers extended and joined, palm to the left, forearm inclined at about forty-five degrees, hand and wrist straight. (Two.) (Par. 48.) Drop the arm quietly by the side. (Note—See Par. 485.)

If uncovered, the forefinger touches the forehead above the eye.

#### **SETTING UP EXERCISES.**

30. In order to retain a proper set up and to keep the muscles supple, all soldiers in garrison should be frequently practiced in the following exercises:

The *arm*, *hand*, *trunk*, *leg* and *foot* exercises should be alternated, the drill interrupted by frequent rests and varied by instruction in the facings, marchings, etc. While exercising one part of the body, care should be taken that the other parts remain quiet, as far as the conformation of the body will allow.

At the command *halt*, given at any time, the exercise ceases, and the position of the soldier is resumed.

The recruits being in single rank (Par. 20), the instructor will place them three paces apart.

#### *First Exercise.*

1. *Arm*, 2. **EXERCISE**, 3. **HEAD**, 4. **UP**, 5. **DOWN**, 6. **RAISE**

At the command *exercise*, raise the arms laterally until horizontal, palms upward. **HEAD**: Raise the arms in a circular direction over the head, tips of fingers touching top of cap over the forehead, backs of fingers in contact their full length, thumbs pointing to the rear, elbows pressed back. **UP**: Extend the arms upward their full length, palms touching. **DOWN**: Force them obliquely back, and gradually let them fall by the sides. **RAISE**: Raise the arms laterally as prescribed for the second command. Continue by repeating, *head*, *up*, *down*, *raise*.

#### *Second Exercise.*

1. *Arm*, 2. **EXERCISE**, 3. **FRONT**, 4. **REAR.**

At the command *exercise*, raise the arms laterally, as in First Exercise. **FRONT**: Swing the arms, extended horizontally to the front, palms touching, heels on the ground. **REAR**: Swing the arms extended well to the rear, inclining them slightly downward, raising the body upon the toes. Continue by repeating, *front*, *rear*, till the men, if possible, are able to touch the hands behind the back.

#### *Third Exercise.*

1. *Arm*, 2. **EXERCISE**, 3. **CIRCLE.**

At the command *exercise*, raise the arms laterally, as in First Exercise. **CIRCLE**: Slowly describe small circles, with the arms upward and backward, from front to rear, the arms not passing in front of the line of the breast. Continue by repeating *circle*.

#### *Fourth Exercise.*

1. *Arm*, 2. **EXERCISE**, 3. **SHOULDER**, 4. **FRONT**, 5. **REAR.**

At the command *exercise*, raise the arm laterally, as in First Exercise. **SHOULDERS**: Place the tips of fingers lightly on top of the shoulders, keeping upper arm horizontal. **FRONT**: Force the elbows to the front. **REAR**: Force the elbows back as far as possible. Continue by repeating *front*, *rear*.

#### *Fifth Exercise.*

1. *Hand*, 2. **EXERCISE**, 3. **CLOSE**, 4. **OPEN.**

At the command *exercise*, raise the arms laterally, as in First Exercise. **CLOSE**: Close the hands with force. **OPEN**: Open the hands quickly, spreading the fingers and thumbs apart as much as possible. Continue by repeating *close*, *open*.



*Sixth Exercise.*

1. *Forearms vertical*, 2. RAISE, 3. UP, 4. DOWN.

At the command *raise*, raise the forearms until nearly vertical, fingers extended and joined, palms toward each other. UP: Thrust upward with force, extending the arms to their full length. DOWN: Force the arms obliquely back, and gradually let them fall by the sides. Continue by repeating *raise, up, down*.

*Seventh Exercise.*

1. *Forearms horizontal*, 2. RAISE, 3. FRONT, 4. REAR.

At the command *raise*, raise the forearms to the front, until horizontal, elbows forced back, hands tightly closed, backs down. FRONT: Thrust the arms forcibly to the front, turning the backs of the hands up, arms horizontal. REAR: Bring the arms back quickly to the first position, forcing elbows and shoulders to the rear. Continue by repeating *front, rear*.

*Eighth Exercise.*

1. *Trunk*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. DOWN, 4. BACK.

At the command *exercise*, raise the hands and place them on the hips, fingers to the rear, thumbs to the front, elbows pressed back. DOWN: Bend the trunk forward at the hips as far as possible. BACK: Raise and bend the trunk to the rear as far as possible. Execute both motions slowly, without bending the knees. Continue by repeating *down, back*.

*Ninth Exercise.*

1. *Trunk*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. RIGHT, 4. LEFT.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips, as in Eighth Exercise. RIGHT: Bend the trunk to the right, without twisting it or raising either heel. LEFT: Bend the trunk similarly to the left. Execute both motions slowly. Continue by repeating *right, left*.

*Tenth Exercise.*

1. *Trunk*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. CIRCLE RIGHT (OR LEFT).

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips, as in Eighth Exercise. CIRCLE RIGHT: Bend the trunk to the right as in Ninth Exercise; turn the trunk to the rear and bend to the rear, as in Eighth Exercise; turn the trunk to the left and bend to the left, as in Ninth Exercise; turn the trunk to the front and bend forward, as in Eighth Exercise. Continue by repeating *circle right*.

*Eleventh Exercise.*

1. *Arms vertical, palms to the front*, 2. RAISE, 3. DOWN, 4. UP.

At the command *raise*, raise the arms from the sides, extended to their full length, till the hands meet above the head, palms to the front, fingers pointed upward, thumbs locked, right thumb in front, shoulders pressed back. DOWN: Bend over till the hands, if possible, touch the ground, keeping arms and knees straight. UP: Straighten the body and swing the arms, extended to the vertical position. Continue by repeating *down, up*.

*Twelfth Exercise.*

1. *Arms forward, palms down*, 2. RAISE, 3. DOWN, 4. UP.

At the command *raise*, raise the arms to the front, extended to their full length, till the hands are in front of and at the height of the shoulders, palms down, fingers extended and joined, thumbs under forefingers. DOWN: Bend the trunk forward at the hips as far as possible, and swing the arms backward, knees and arms straight. UP: Straighten the trunk and swing the arms to the forward position. Continue by repeating *down, up*.

*Thirteenth Exercise.*

1. *Leg*, 2. *Exercise*, 3. *Half bend*, 4. DOWN, 5. UP.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips as in Eighth Exercise. DOWN: Lower the body, separating the knees and bending them as much as possible, heels on the ground, head and trunk erect. UP: Raise the body, straightening and closing the knees. Continue by repeating *down, up*.

*Fourteenth Exercise.*

1. *Leg*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. *Full bend*, 4. DOWN, 5. UP.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips as in Eighth Exercise. DOWN: Lower the body, separating the knees and bending them as much as possible, head and trunk erect, heels raised, weight of body resting on the balls of the feet. UP: Raise the body, straightening and closing the knees and lower the heels to the ground. Continue by repeating *down, up*.

*Fifteenth Exercise.*

1. *Leg*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. *Left (or right)*, 4. FORWARD, 5. REAR, OR 5. GROUND.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips as in Eighth Exercise. FORWARD: Move the left leg to the front, knee straight, so as to advance the foot about fifteen inches, toe turned out, sole nearly horizontal, body balanced on right foot. REAR: Move the leg to the rear, knee straight, toe on a line with the right heel, sole nearly horizontal. Continue by repeating *forward, rear*.

When the recruit has learned to balance himself, the command *forward* is followed by GROUND. Throw the weight of the body forward by rising on the ball of the right foot, advance and plant the left foot, left heel thirty inches from the right, and advance the right leg quickly to the position of *forward*. Continue by repeating *ground* when the right and left legs are alternately in the position of *forward*.

*Sixteenth Exercise.*

1. *Leg*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. UP.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips as in Eighth Exercise. UP: Raise the left leg to the front, bending and elevating the knee as much as possible, leg from knee to instep vertical, toe depressed. UP: Replace the left foot and raise the right leg as prescribed for the left.

Execute slowly at first, then gradually increase to the cadence of double time. Continue by repeating *up* when the right and left legs are alternately in position.

*Seventeenth Exercise.*

1. *Foot*, 2. EXERCISE, 3. UP, 4. DOWN.

At the command *exercise*, place the hands on the hips as in Eighth Exercise. UP: Raise the body upon the toes, knees straight, heels together. DOWN: Lower the heels slowly to the ground. Continue by repeating *up, down*.

As soon as the exercises are well understood, they may be executed without repeating the commands. For this purpose the instructor gives the commands as prescribed, then adds: *Continue the exercise*, upon which the motions to be repeated are continuously executed until the command *halt*.

Whenever there is a regular system of gymnastic instruction it may replace the setting up exercises for well trained soldiers.

## THE STEPS.

*Quick Time.*

31. The length of the full step in quick time is 30 inches measured from heel to heel, and the cadence is at the rate of 120 steps per minute.

32. The recruits being confirmed in the position of the soldier, the instructor places himself 8 or 10 paces in front of them, and facing toward them executes the step slowly, at the same time explaining the principles; he then commands: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *forward*, throw the weight of the body upon the right leg without bending the left knee.

At the command *march*, move the left leg smartly, but without jerk, carry the foot straight forward 30 inches from the right, measuring from heel to heel, sole near the ground, knee straight and slightly turned out; at the same time throw the weight of the body forward, and plant the foot without shock, weight of body resting upon it; next, in like manner, advance the right foot, and plant it as above; continue the march, keeping the face to the front. The instructor indicates from time to time the cadence of the step by calling *one, two, three, four*; or, *left, right*, the instant the left and right foot, respectively, should be planted.

The cadence is at first given slowly, and gradually increased to that of quick time.

33. To arrest the march: 1. *Squad*, 2. **HALT**.

At the command *halt*, given as either foot is coming to the ground, the foot in rear is brought up and planted without shock by the side of the other.

#### *Double Time.*

34. The length of the full step in double time is 36 inches; the cadence is at the rate of 180 steps per minute.

35. To march in double time: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Double time*, 3. **MARCH**.

At the command *forward*, throw the weight of the body on the right leg; at the command *double time*, raise the hands until the forearms are horizontal, fingers closed, nails toward the body, elbows to the rear.

At the command *march*, carry forward the left foot, leg slightly bent, knee somewhat raised, and plant the foot 36 inches from the right; then execute the same motion with the right foot; continue this alternate movement of the feet, throwing the weight of the body forward and allowing a natural swinging motion to the arms. The recruits are also exercised in running, the principles being the same as for double time.

When marching in double time and running, the men breathe as much as possible through the nose, keeping the mouth closed.

#### *To Mark Time.*

36. Being in march: 1. *Mark Time*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, given as either foot is coming to the ground, continue the cadence and make a semblance of marching, without gaining ground, by alternately advancing each foot about half its length, and bringing it back on a line with the other.

To resume the full step: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**.

#### *Short Step.*

37. Being in march: 1. *Short Step*, 2. **MARCH**.

Take steps of 15 inches. The full step is resumed at the commands: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**.

The length of the short step in double time is 18 inches.

#### *Side Step.*

38. Being at a halt: 1. *Right (or Left) Step*, 2. **MARCH**.

Carry the right foot 12 inches to the right, keeping knees straight and shoulders square to the front; as soon as the right foot is planted, bring the left foot to the side of it, and continue the movement, observing the cadence for each foot, as explained for quick time.

The side step is not executed in double time.

#### *Back Step.*

39. Being at a halt: 1. *Backward*, 2. **MARCH**.

Step back with the left foot 15 inches straight to the rear, measuring from heel to heel, then with the right, and so on, the feet alternating.

At the command *halt*, bring back the foot in front to the side of the one in rear. The back step is used for short distances only and is not executed in double time.

40. The *short step*, *side step* and *back step* may be executed from *mark time* and conversely.

#### *Change Step.*

41. Being in march: 1. *Change Step*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, given as the right foot comes to the ground, the left foot is advanced and planted; the toe of the right is then advanced near the heel of the left, the recruit again stepping off with the left.

The change on the right foot is similarly executed, the command *march* being given as the left foot strikes the ground.

#### *Covering and Marching on Points.*

42. The instructor selects two points on the ground and requires the recruits, in succession, to place themselves so that the prolongation of the straight line through these points shall pass between their heels.

The instructor places himself in the rear of each recruit, points out the faults of his position, and causes him to cover accurately.

When the recruits are able to cover the points, quickly and accurately, they are required, after covering, to march upon the points in quick and double time. The instructor remaining in rear of the recruit, observes his march; when halted, the recruit arrests his covering, if necessary; at the command *fall out*, he steps to one side. The other recruits are halted near the same point, and when all have arrived the instructor, selecting new points, continues the exercise.

Two recruits should also be established by the instructor, one covering the other, and the others required to cover them at considerable distances apart; the recruits should then be faced about and the exercise repeated in the new direction.

It should be demonstrated to the recruits that they cannot march in a straight line without selecting two points in the desired direction and keeping them covered while advancing.

43. A distant and conspicuous landmark will next be selected as a point of direction; the recruit will be required to choose two intermediate points on the ground in line with the point of direction and to march upon it by covering these points, new points being selected as he advances.

#### INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION WITH ARMS.

44. The recruit should, as soon as possible, be taught the use of his rifle, its care and preservation.

When fair progress has been made in the Individual Instruction Without Arms, the recruit will be taught the manual of arms; instruction without arms and that with arms alternating.

Part of each drill with arms should be devoted to marching.

45. The manual of arms is explained for double rank, but for the instruction of recruits it is first executed in single rank; the instruction is given as herein prescribed, substituting the word *man* for *file* in the commands and explanations, and omitting reference to the rear rank.

At the command *fall in*, the recruits, usually not exceeding four, assemble (Par. 20), pieces at order arms.

46. To prevent accidents, the chambers will be opened



(Par. 83), whenever the squad is first formed, and again just before being dismissed. *This rule is general.*

47. The cadence of the motions is that of quick time; the recruits will at first be required to give their whole attention to the details of the motions, the cadence being gradually acquired as they become accustomed to handling their arms.

The instructor will, at first, cause the men to execute the movements by themselves, without command, until they understand the details; after this he will require them to execute the movements together at command.

The movement relative to the cartridge fixing and unfixing bayonet, adjusting sight, breaking and forming stack, are executed with promptness and regularity, but not in cadence.

48. Being at a halt, the movements are, for the purpose of instruction, divided into motions and executed in detail; in this case the command of execution determines the prompt execution of the first motion and the commands, **TWO, THREE**, etc., that of the other motions.

To execute movements in detail, the instructor first cautions: *By the numbers*, all movements divided into motions are then executed as above explained until he cautions: *Without the numbers*, or commands movements other than those in the manual of arms.

#### MANUAL OF ARMS.

##### *General Rules.*

49. *First.* In resuming the carry from any position in the manual, the motion next to the last concludes with the left hand as high as the hollow of the right shoulder, fingers extended and joined, thumb close to forefinger, back of the hand to the front, elbow close to the body, right hand embracing the guard with thumb and forefinger; the last motion consists in dropping the left hand by the side.

*Second.* In all positions of the left hand at the balance (center of gravity, bayonet unfixed), the thumb is extended along the stock, except at the *port* and *charge bayonet*.

*Third.* In all positions of the piece in front of the center of the body, the barrel is to the rear and vertical.

*Fourth.* The piece is habitually carried with the hammer at the safety notch.

50. The recruit being in the position of the soldier, the instructor will first cause him to place his piece carefully in the following positions:

##### *Position of Order Arms.*

The butt rests evenly on the ground, arms hanging naturally, elbows near the body, right hand holding the piece between the thumb and fingers, first two fingers in front, the others in rear and opposite the seam of the trousers; this will incline the barrel forward and the toe of the piece will be about one inch to the right and two inches to the rear of the right toe.

##### *Position of Carry Arms.*

The piece is in the right hand, thumb and forefinger embracing the guard, the remaining fingers closed together and grasping the stock just under the hammer, which rests on the little finger; barrel nearly vertical and resting against the shoulder, guard to the front; arm hanging nearly at its full length, near the body.

The instructor sees that the piece at the carry is neither too high nor too low; if too high the piece will be unsteady; if too low, the right arm will become fatigued and the shoulder will be drawn down.

On first bearing arms the recruits are liable to derange their positions by lowering a shoulder or hip. The instructor endeavors to correct these faults.

51. Being at the order: 1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS.**

Raise the piece vertically with the right hand, grasp

it at the same time with the left, above the right, resume the carry, (**TWO**) Drop the left hand.

52. Being at the carry: 1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS:**

Advance the piece, grasp it with the left hand, forearm horizontal, let go with right hand; lower the piece quickly with the left, regrasp it with the right above the balance, hand near the thigh, butt about three inches from the ground, left hand steadying the piece near the right, fingers extended and joined, forearm and wrist straight and inclined downward. (**TWO**) Lower the piece gently to the ground with the right hand, drop the left by the side and take the position of order arms.

53. Being at the carry: 1. *Present*, 2. **ARMS.**

Carry the piece with the right hand, in front of the center of the body, at the same time grasp it with the left hand at the balance, forearm horizontal and resting against the body. (**TWO**.) Grasp the small of the stock with the right hand below and against the guard.

1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS.**

Resume the carry. (**TWO**.) Drop the left hand.

54. Being at the carry or order: 1. *Right shoulder*, 2. **ARMS.**

Raise the piece vertically with the right hand, grasp it with the left at the balance, and raise this hand till it is at the height of the chin; at the same time embrace the butt with the right hand, toe between the first two fingers, the other fingers under the plate, barrel same inclination to the front as at the order. (**TWO**.) Raise the piece and place it on the right shoulder, lock plate up, muzzle elevated and inclined to the left, so that, viewed from the front, the line of the stock, from toe to guard, shall appear nearly parallel to the row of buttons; slip the left hand down to the lock plate. (**THREE**.) Drop the left hand by the side.

55. Being at the right shoulder: 1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS.**

Carry the butt slightly to the left and lower the piece with the right hand; grasp it with the left at the balance, hand at the height of chin, barrel to the rear, and at the same inclination to the front as at the order. (**TWO**.) Resume the carry. (**THREE**.) Drop the left hand.

56. Being at the right shoulder: 1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS.**

Take the first position of carry from right shoulder. (**TWO**.) Lower the piece with the left hand at the same time regrasping it with the right above the balance, and take the first position of order from carry. (**THREE**.) Take the position of order arms.

57. Being at the carry or order: 1. *Port*, 2. **ARMS.**

Raise and throw the piece diagonally across the body, lockplate to the front; grasp it smartly with both hands, the right, palm down at the small of stock; the left, palm up, at the balance, thumb clasping piece; barrel sloping to the left and crossing opposite the middle of left shoulder; right forearm horizontal; forearms and piece near the body.

1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS.**

Resume the carry. (**TWO**.) Drop the left hand.

Being at the port: 1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS.**

Take the second and third positions of order from right shoulder.

58. Being at the right shoulder: 1. *Port*, 2. **ARMS.**

Take the first position of carry from right shoulder. (**TWO**.) Take the position of *port arms*.

1. *Right shoulder*, 2. **ARMS.**

Take the second and third positions of right shoulder from the carry.

##### *The Rests.*

59. *Fall out, Rest and At ease*, are executed as without arms.

On resuming the attention, take the position of *order arms*.

60. Being at the order: 1. *Parade*, 2. **REST.**

Carry the right foot six inches straight to the rear,



left knee slightly bent, carry the muzzle in front of the center of the body, barrel to the left; grasp the piece with the left hand just above and with the right at the upper band.

1. *Squad*, 2. **ATTENTION**.

Resume the order, the left hand quitting the piece opposite the right breast.

61. To dismiss the squad, with arms: 1. *Port*, 2. **ARMS**, 3. **DISMISSED**.

62. Being at the carry: 1. *Fix*, 2. **BAYONET**.

Grasp the piece with the left hand, forearm horizontal; carry it to the left side, butt striking the ground on a line with the heels, piece inclined to the front, left wrist pressing bayonet scabbard against the thigh; carry right hand to the shank of the bayonet; draw the bayonet and fix it on the barrel, glancing at the muzzle; drop the right hand by the side.

1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS**.

Raise the piece with the left hand and resume the carry. (TWO.) Drop the left hand.

63. Being at the carry: 1. *Unfix*, 2. **BAYONET**.

Carry the piece to the left side as in fix bayonet, and place the forefinger of the right hand against the clasp of the bayonet; unclasp the bayonet; grasp it by the shank, wrest it from the barrel; glancing at the scabbard, return the bayonet, and drop the right hand by the side.

The carry arms is executed as from fix bayonet.

Bayonets are fixed and unfixed from the order, by the same commands as from the carry, the piece being shifted from the right to the left side. To return to the carry, or order; 1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS**; or, 1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS**.

In fixing and unfixing bayonet from the order, and in returning to the order, the hands change in front of the center of the body, the left hand grasping the piece above the right.

64. Being at the port: 1. *Unfix*, 2. **BAYONET**.

As from the carry, quitting the piece with the right hand and lowering it with the left.

65. The rod bayonet is fixed and unfixed from the order only without moving the piece, grasp the roughened end of the bayonet with the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, slip the right hand to the spring button, thumb and forefinger resting on the roughened ends; press the button, draw out (or push in), the bayonet, at the same time releasing the pressure on the spring, which will automatically catch the bayonet; resume the position of order arms.

66. If marching, the bayonet is fixed and unfixed in the most expeditious and convenient manner.

67. Being at the carry: 1. *Charge*, 2. **BAYONET**.

Half face to the right, carrying the heel six inches to the rear and three inches to the right of the left, turning the toes of both feet slightly inward; at the same time drop the piece into the left hand at the balance, thumb clasping piece, elbow against the body, point of bayonet at the height of the chin, right hand grasping small of stock and supporting it firmly against the right hip, body inclining slightly forward.

1. *Carry*, 2. **ARMS**.

Resume the carry, at the same time facing to the front. (TWO.) Drop the left hand.

68. Being at the order: 1. *Charge*, 2. **BAYONET**.

Raise the piece with the right hand, grasp it with the left at the balance, and take the position of charge bayonet.

1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS**.

Let go the piece with the right hand and lower it with the left to the first position of order from carry, at the same time facing to the front. (TWO.) Resume the order.

#### *Positions Kneeling and Lying Down.*

69. The movements of kneeling, lying down and rising are first taught without arms; they are executed as with arms, except that in the position kneeling the right hand rests on the right thigh, and in moving to and from the lying position the right hand is placed on the ground; in the position lying down the forearms are against each other on the ground, left arm in front.

70. At the commands *kneel*, *lie down* or *rise*, the hammer will first be lowered to the safety notch, if not already there. *This rule is general.*

71. Being at the order: **KNEEL**.

Each front rank man half faces to the right, carrying right foot so that the toe shall be about ten inches to the rear and ten inches to the left of left heel; kneel on right knee, bending the left, left toe slightly inclined to the right, right leg pointing directly to the right; weight of body resting on right heel; place left forearm across left thigh, hand hanging naturally; the piece remains in the position of order arms, right hand grasping it above the balance. *This is the position of order kneeling.*

Each rear rank man steps off obliquely to the right with the left foot, planting the toe opposite the middle of the interval to his right and in line with the left heel of his front rank man, at the same time placing the butt of his piece against his left toe; he then kneels as prescribed for the front rank.

72. Being at the order kneeling: **RISE**.

Rise and take the position of order arms; the rear rank men covering their file leaders.

73. Being at the order kneeling: **LIE DOWN**.

Each front rank man places the right knee against the left heel. (TWO.) Draw back the left foot and place the knee on the ground; place the left hand well forward on the ground and lie flat on the belly, thus inclining the body about thirty-five degrees to the right; the piece is lowered at the same time with the right hand, toe resting on the ground, barrel up, left hand at the balance, left elbow on the ground, right hand at the small of the stock, opposite the neck. *This is the position lying down.*

The rear rank men move back one pace and lie down as prescribed for the front rank.

74. Being in position lying down: **RISE**.

Reverse the second motion of lie down (Par. 73.) (TWO.) Rise as from the order kneeling. (Par. 72.)

75. Being at the order standing: **LIE DOWN**.

Each front rank man takes the position of order kneeling, except that the right knee is placed against the left heel. (TWO.) Execute the second motion of *lie down*. (Par. 73.)

The rear rank men step back one pace and lie down as prescribed for the front rank.

76. Being in position lying down: **KNEEL**.

Execute the first motion of rise (Par. 74) and take the position of order kneeling.

#### *To Load.*

77. Being in line, standing at the carry or order: **LOAD**.

Each rear rank man steps off obliquely to the right with the left foot, planting the toe opposite the middle of the interval to his right and in line with the left heel of his front rank man; the front rank men half face to the right; both ranks then carry the right heel six inches to the rear and three inches to the right of the left heel, turning the toes of both feet slightly inward, at the same time raise the piece with the right hand, drop it into the left at the balance, muzzle at the height of the chin, left elbow against the body, small of the stock at the waist; place the right thumb on the head of the hammer, forefinger on the trigger, the other

fingers against the small of the stock, and half cock the piece, lower the muzzle, barrel sloping downward at an angle of about twenty-five degrees, at the same time open chamber; look toward the chamber, remove the cartridge shell if necessary, take a cartridge between the thumb and first two fingers, place it in the bore, pressing it home with the thumb; close chamber with the right thumb, cast the eyes to the front, carry the right hand to the small of the stock and raise the muzzle to the height of the chin. *The last position is the position of load.*

78. If kneeling, the left forearm rests across the left thigh. If lying down the left hand steadies the piece, toe resting on the ground.

79. Boxes are closed after executing the *order or order kneeling*.

80. Being in the position of load: 1. *Squad*, 2. **READY**. Cock the piece with the right thumb, and return the thumb to the small of the stock.

81. The piece may be brought to a ready from any position by the same commands; in executing it, first take the position of load. (Pars. 77 and 78.)

82. Being in position of load or ready: 1. *Order*, 2. **ARMS**.

Lower the hammer to the safety notch, and take the order as from charge bayonet; the rear rank men then step back and cover their file leaders. If kneeling, lower the hammer to the safety notch and take the order kneeling.

83. To ascertain if any of the pieces are loaded, the instructor causes them to be brought to the port and commands: 1. *Open*, 2. **CHAMBER**.

Half cock the piece, open chamber, and return the hand to the small of the stock.

Each man, as soon as his piece is examined, closes chamber with the right thumb, lowers the hammer to the safety notch, and returns the hand to the small of the stock. If the instructor does not examine the pieces, he commands: 1. *Close*, 2. **CHAMBER**; at which chambers are closed, hammers lowered to safety notch and the port resumed.

84. Being in any position, pieces loaded: 1. *Draw*, 2. **CARTRIDGE**.

Executed as prescribed for loading (Pars. 77 and 78), except that the cartridge is withdrawn and returned to the box or belt, and the hammer lowered to the safety notch.

#### *To Aim and Fire.*

85. Being at the ready: **AIM**.

Raise the piece with both hands and support the butt firmly against the hollow of the right shoulder, right thumb extended along the stock, barrel horizontal; slip the left hand back to the guard, little finger resting against the bottom of the thumb piece of the cam latch; left elbow resting against the body and as far to the right as it can be placed with ease, right elbow as high as the shoulder; incline the head slightly forward and a little to the right, cheek resting against the stock, left eye closed, right eye looking through the notch of rear sight so as to perceive the top of the front sight; second joint of forefinger resting lightly against the front of the trigger, but not pressing it.

Each rear rank man aims through the interval at the right of his file leader, and inclines slightly forward, to advance the muzzle of his piece beyond the front rank. When lying down in double rank, the rear rank men do not aim nor fire.

86. **FIRE**.

Press the finger against the trigger; fire without deranging the aim and without lowering or turning the head.

87. **LOAD**.

Lower the piece and load. (Par. 77.)

88. The exercise is continued by the commands: 1. *Squad*, 2. **READY**, 3. **AIM**, 4. **FIRE**, 5. **LOAD**.

89. To accustom the recruits in the position of aim, to wait for the command *fire*: 1. *Recover*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *recover*, withdraw the finger from the trigger; at the command *arms*, take the position of ready.

90. In aiming kneeling, the left elbow rests upon the left knee, point of elbow in front of knee cap.

In aiming lying down, raise the piece with both hands and slip it through the left to the lock plate; rest on both elbows and press the butt firmly against the right shoulder; in recovering arms, the piece is held as in load.

91. When the recruits are thoroughly instructed in the adjustments of the sight, and the principles of aiming as laid down in the Firing Regulations for Small Arms, they will be required to aim, using the different lines of sight. For this purpose the instructor commands: 1. *At (so many) yards*, 2. *Squad*, 3. **READY**, 4. **AIM**.

At the first command, both ranks take the position for loading and adjust the sight with the right hand; then raise the muzzle to the height of the chin.

The instructor assures himself by careful inspection that each man sets his sight at the range indicated; when satisfied that the subject is fully comprehended, he will exercise the men in aiming at a designated object. For this purpose he commands: 1. *At that tree (or at —)*, 2. *At (so many) yards*, 3. *Squad*, 4. **READY**, 5. **AIM**.

At the first command, fix the eyes on the object indicated; at the second command, adjust the sight and immediately fix the eyes upon the object again.

92. In order not to mislead the men, the distance announced in the command should be, as nearly as possible, the true distance of the objective. By changing the objective, all the different lines of sight may be used; the men should be practiced in aiming at objects above and below them.

93. The recruits are at first taught to load and fire without using cartridges; after a few lessons, they should use dummy cartridges, and when well instructed the drill may close with a few rounds of blank cartridges.

94. No cartridges will be used, except when indicated in the first command, thus: 1. *With dummy (blank or ball) cartridges*, 2. **LOAD**. *This rule is general.*

#### *Rifle Salute.*

95. Being at the carry: 1. *Rifle*, 2. **SALUTE**.

Carry the left hand smartly to the hollow of the right shoulder, forearm horizontal, palm of the hand down, thumb and fingers extended and joined, forefinger against the piece. (**TWO**.)

Drop the left hand by the side.

#### *Inspection of Cartridge Boxes and Arms.*

96. Being at the order: 1. *Open*, 2. **BOXES**.

Steady the piece by grasping it with the left hand near the muzzle, forearm horizontal; open the box with the right hand and resume the order.

In a similar manner each man, as his box is inspected, closes it and resumes the order.

97. Being at the order: 1. *Inspection*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *arms*, bayonets are fixed and cartridge boxes opened.

Each man, as the inspector approaches him, executes *port arms* and *open chamber*.

The inspector takes the piece (the man dropping the hands by the sides), inspects and hands it back to the man, who receives it with the left hand at the balance, resumes the port, closes chamber, brings the hammer



to the safety notch, unfixes bayonet and returns to the order.

With the ramrod bayonet, the piece is brought to the order and the bayonet is then unfixes.

As the inspector returns the piece, the next man executes *inspection arms*, and so on through the squad.

Should the piece be inspected without handling, the man closes chamber, brings the hammer to the safety notch, unfixes bayonet and returns to the order, when the inspector passes to the next man who immediately executes *inspection arms*.

The inspection of arms begins on the right, after which the inspector may pass in rear and inspect boxes from left to right.

Boxes are closed as soon as inspected.

#### *To Unsling and Sling Knapsacks.*

98. Arms being stacked: 1. *Unsling*, 2. **KNAPSACK**.

At the command *unsling*, the front rank moves back one step (Par. 39) to clear the stacks, and faces about; the rear rank at the same time moves back three steps; all the men unhook the right hand strap.

At the command *knapsack*, remove the knapsacks, the four men whose pieces are in the same stack leaning their knapsacks flat outward, one against another in the form of a square.

The knapsacks of the guides and file closers are placed each against the nearest pile.

1. *Sling*, 2. **KNAPSACK**.

At the command *sling*, each man takes his knapsack and, standing erect, holds it by the straps, the flap next to the knees; at the command *knapsack*, places the knapsack on the back, the front rank facing about and stepping up to the stacks, the rear rank closing to facing distance.

NOTE.—The word *knapsack* will be used in the commands for all patterns of packs.

#### *Stack Arms.*

99. Stacks will not be made with the bayonet if the rifles have the stacking swivel.

100. Three pieces only are used in making a stack; pieces not so used are, in this connection, termed *loose pieces*.

Preparatory to stacking arms, the squad must have counted fours (Par. 186), and must be in line at the order.

#### *With the Stacking Swivel.*

101. 1. *Stack*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *stack*, each even number of the front rank raises his piece with the right hand, grasps it with the left at the upper band, and rests the butt between his feet, barrel to the front, muzzle inclining slightly to the front and opposite the center of the interval on his right, the thumb and forefinger raising the stacking swivel; each even number of the rear rank then passes his piece, barrel to the rear, to his file leader, who grasps it between the bands with his right hand and throws the butt twenty-eight inches in advance of his own and opposite the middle of the interval, the right hand slipping to the upper band, the thumb and forefinger raising the stacking swivel, which he engages with that of his own piece; each odd number of the front rank raises his piece with the right hand, barrel to the front, the left hand guiding the stacking swivel, which he holds near the stacking swivel of the other pieces.

At the command *arms*, each odd number of the front rank engages the lower hook of his swivel with the free hook of the swivel of the even number of the rear rank; he then turns the barrel outward and downward, into the angle formed by the other two pieces, and rests the butt between his feet.

The stacks being formed, the pieces of the odd numbers

in the rear rank are passed to the even numbers in the front rank, who lay them on the stacks. The pieces of the guides and the file closers are laid on the stacks at the same time.

The men having quitted their pieces, take the position of the soldier.

The instructor may then rest or dismiss the squad, leaving the arms stacked.

On assembling, the men take their places in rear of the stacks.

102. 1. *Take*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *take*, the loose pieces are returned; each even number of the front rank then grasps his own piece with the left hand, the piece of his rear rank man with the right hand, grasping both between the bands; each odd number of the front rank grasps his piece in the same way with the right hand.

At the command *arms*, each odd number of the front rank disengages his own piece by turning it to the right; each even number of the front rank disengages his piece by turning it to the left; the butts are then raised from the ground, each even number of the front rank passes the piece of his rear rank man to him, and all resume the order.

#### *With the Bayonet.*

103. 1. *Stack*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *stack*, each even number of the front rank raises his piece with the right hand and grasps it with the left between the bands and holds the butt six inches above the space between his feet, barrel to the rear, muzzle inclining slightly to the front and opposite the center of the interval on his right; each even number of the rear rank then passes his piece, barrel to the right, to his file leader, who grasps it between the bands with his right hand and places the shank of the bayonet upon that of his own; each odd number of the front rank raises his piece with the right hand, barrel to the front, and places the shank of his bayonet in the angle formed by the bayonets of the other two pieces; the butts of all the pieces are about six inches from the ground.

At the command *arms*, each even number of the front rank, with his right hand, passes the butt of the piece of his rear rank man twenty-eight inches in advance of his own and opposite the middle of the interval, passing it between the butts of the other pieces; the stack is then lowered, the front rank men resting the butts of their own pieces between their feet.

The stacks being formed, the pieces of the odd numbers of the rear rank are passed to the even numbers of the front rank, who lay them on the stacks. The pieces of the guides and file closers are laid on the stacks at the same time.

The men having quitted their pieces take the position of the soldier.

104. 1. *Take*, 2. **ARMS**.

At the command *take*, the loose pieces are returned; each even number of the front rank then grasps his own piece with the left hand, the piece of his rear rank man with the right hand, grasping both between the bands; each odd number of the front rank grasps his own piece in the same way with the right hand.

At the command *arms*, raise the butts from the ground and disengage the pieces; each even number of the front rank passes the piece of his rear rank man to him, and all resume the order.

105. Being in single rank, arms are stacked and taken on the same principles as in double rank; at the preparatory command number three steps back and covers number two; numbers two and three execute what has been explained for the even numbers of the front and rear rank respectively; number three then resumes his

place; number one uses his piece as explained for the odd number of the front rank. The piece of number four is passed as explained for the odd numbers of the rear rank.

106. The following positions of the piece are intended mainly for use in extended order and route marches. Whenever the commands for any of these positions are given, the piece will be shifted in the most convenient manner; reducing the movements to regular motions and cadence is prohibited.

107. 1. *Trail*, 2. **ARMS**.

The piece is grasped with the right hand, just above the balance, right arm slightly bent, barrel up, muzzle inclined slightly to the front.

When it can be done without danger or inconvenience to others, as on the firing line, the piece may be grasped at the balance and the muzzle lowered until the piece is horizontal. A similar position in the left hand may then be used.

108. 1. *Left shoulder*, 2. **ARMS**.

The piece rests on the left shoulder, barrel up, muzzle elevated so as not to interfere with the men in rear, trigger guard in front of and near the shoulder, left hand embracing the butt, heel between the first and second fingers, elbow down.

109. 1. *Sling*, 2. **ARMS**.

The right arm is passed between the rifle and the sling which rests upon the shoulder, piece in rear of the shoulder and nearly vertical, muzzle up; right hand steadying the piece.

On route marches, the piece may be slung on the left shoulder. The gun sling should never be so tightly drawn that it cannot be readily adjusted.

110. 1. *Secure*, 2. **ARMS**.

The piece is held in the right hand at the balance, barrel up, sloping downward and to the front; right hand supported against the front of the hip, upper arm against the stock. A corresponding position in the left hand may be used.

111. When the recruits are at first exercised in marching with arms, the instructor orders the pieces into position before putting the squad in march and before passing from quick to double time; he also causes the recruits to be at quick time at the carry before ordering the *halt*.

112. When the marchings and manual of arms are thoroughly understood, the following general rules govern:

*First*. If at the order, bring the piece to the right shoulder at the preparatory command for marching in quick time.

*Second*. If at the order or carry, bring the piece to the right shoulder at the command: *Double time*.

*Third*. A disengaged hand in double time is held as when without arms.

*Fourth*. If at the right shoulder, left shoulder or trail, bring the piece to the order on halting; the execution of the order and halt commence at the same instant.

*Fifth*. When the facings, side step, back step, alignments, open and close ranks, and loadings are executed from the order, raise the piece to the trail while in motion, and resume the order on halting. When this rule applies to other movements, it is therein stated.

113. In the battle exercises, or whenever circumstances require, the regular positions of the manual of arms and the firings may be ordered without regard to the previous position of the piece; such movements as are not in the manual will be executed without regard to motions or cadence. It is laid down as a principle that the effective use of the weapon is not to be impeded by the formalities of drill.

## THE SQUAD.

114. The movements are explained for double rank, with arms; in the instruction of recruits, however, the movements are first executed in single rank, without arms; the instruction is given as herein prescribed by substituting the word *man* for *file* in the commands and explanations, and omitting reference to the rear rank and the position of the piece.

115. The recruits are divided into groups of about seven men, to represent squads, each under the command of a corporal, who is the instructor. (Par. 12.)

The object is to give the corporal the confidence and experience necessary to qualify him as squad leader, while at the same time teaching the recruits the movements in close and extended order.

The corporal, as squad leader, is posted as the left man in the front rank. (See par. 9.) The rear rank man, who covers the corporal, steps into the front rank whenever the latter leaves his place; this file remains blank until the corporal resumes his place in ranks.

116. When the guide is announced in the command, the man on the designated flank conducts the march, but in no other respect acts as guide.

To accustom the recruits to their duties in all positions their places will frequently be changed.

117. A double or single rank faced to a flank is called a column of files. (See, also, par. 215.)

118. In line, the distance between ranks, from back to breast, is facing distance; on rough ground, and when marching in double time, it is increased to 36 inches; the rear rank closes to facing distance upon halting.

When the knapsack is worn, the distance is increased by the depth of the knapsack.

## TO SIZE AND FORM THE SQUAD.

119. Being in single rank at the order, the instructor faces the squad to the right, arranges the men according to height, tallest man in front, and commands: 1. *In two ranks form squad*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **FRONT**.

At the command *march* the first man faces to the left; the second man places himself in the rear rank covering the first; both place the left hand above the hip (Par. 19.); the other men close in quick time, and form alternately in front and rear rank, as explained for the first two, each man facing to the left upon arriving at his proper place; then dressing to the right.

All the men having formed, the instructor commands: **FRONT**. The men turn the head and eyes to the front and drop the left hand by the side.

The squad having been sized, the men are cautioned to take the same relative positions, when the squad is formed thereafter.

120. To form the squad, the corporal places himself in front of where the centre is to be formed, makes the signal for the assembly, or commands: **FALL IN**.

The men assemble in their proper places in double rank; arms at the order.

## Alignments.

121. The alignments are first taught by requiring the recruits to align themselves, man by man, upon two files established as a base.

Being at the carry or order: 1. *Two files from the right (or left) three paces to the front*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **NEXT**, 4. **FRONT**.

At the command *march*, the first two files on the right march three paces to the front, halt, execute *eyes right*, and place the left hand above the hip (Par. 19); the instructor aligns them, sees that the rear rank men cover their file leaders, and then causes the remaining files to move up successively on this alignment, each by the command *next*.



At the command *next*, the next file marches three paces to the front, each man shortening the last step so as to find himself about six inches in rear of the new alignment, which must never be passed; he then executes *eyes right*, places the left hand above the hip, and taking steps of two or three inches, moves up, placing his arm lightly against the elbow of the man on his right, so that his eyes and shoulders shall be in line with those of the men on his right.

The instructor sees that each man observes the principles of the alignment, and when the last file has arrived on the line, verifies the alignment of both ranks from the right flank and orders up or back, such men as may be in rear or in advance of the line; only the men designated move.

At the command *front*, given when the ranks are aligned, the men cast their eyes to the front and drop the left hand; all movements in the ranks must then cease.

In dressing to the left, each man places himself so that his left elbow touches lightly the arm of the man on his left.

122. In the first drills, the basis of the alignment is established parallel to the front of the squad, and afterward in oblique directions.

In order to habituate the recruit to his interval in line, the left hand is placed above the hip in all alignments in the School of the Soldier.

123. The recruits having learned to align themselves, man by man, the instructor establishes the base files and aligns the squad by the commands: 1. *Right (or left)*, 2. **DRESS**, 3. **FRONT**.

At the command *dress*, all the men except the base files, move forward and dress up to the line, as previously explained.

The rear rank men cover in file, at facing distance, and cast their eyes to the right.

The instructor verifies the alignment and gives the command: *Front*. All the men then turn the head and eyes to the front and drop the left hand.

124. Alignments to the rear are executed on the same principles: 1. *Right (or left) backward*, 2. **DRESS**, 3. **FRONT**.

The men step back, halt a little in rear of the line of the base files, and immediately dress up by steps of two or three inches.

125. To execute the alignments, using the side step, the instructor establishes the base files a few paces to the right or left of the squad and commands: 1. *Right (or left) step*, 2. *Right (or left)*, 3. **DRESS**, 4. **FRONT**.

At the command *dress*, the men execute the side step, close toward the base files, and dress as already explained.

126. When the squad dresses quickly and well, the guide alone is first established.

In dressing, the first two or three files are accurately aligned as quickly as possible, to afford a base for the rest of the squad.

#### MARCHINGS.

##### To March in Line.

127. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide (right or left)*, 3. **MARCH**.

The men step off, the guide marching straight to the front; the rear rank men cover their file leaders and follow them at facing distance.

The instructor sees that the men preserve the interval toward the side of the guide; that they yield to pressure from that side and resist pressure from the opposite direction; that by slightly shortening or lengthening the step, they gradually recover the alignment, and by slightly opening out or closing in, they gradually recover the interval, if lost; that while

habitually keeping the head to the front, they may occasionally glance toward the side of the guide to assure themselves of the alignment and interval, but that the head is turned as little as possible for this purpose.

To change the guide: *Guide (left or right)*.

128. If the men lose step, the instructor commands: **STEP**.

The men glance toward the side of the guide, retake the step and cast their eyes to the front.

##### To March Backward.

129. Being at a halt: 1. *Backward*, 2. *Guide (right or left)*, 3. **MARCH**.

##### To March to the Rear.

130. Being in march: 1. *To the rear*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide (right or left)*.

At the command *march*, given as the right foot strikes the ground, advance and plant the left foot; then turn on the balls of both feet, face to the right about and immediately step off with the left foot.

If marching in double time, turn to the right about, taking four short steps in place, keeping the cadence, and then step off with the left foot.

##### To March by the Flank, in Column of Files.

131. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Right (or left)*, 2. **FACE**, 3. *Forward*, 4. **MARCH**.

If marching: 1. *By the right (or left) flank*, 2. **MARCH**. At the command *march*, given as the right foot strikes the ground, advance and plant the left foot, then face to the right in marching and step off in the new direction with the right foot.

In each file the front rank man is the guide: the men cover in file and keep closed to facing distance.

To halt the column of files: 1. *Squad*, 2. **HALT**; and, to face it to the front, 3. *Left (or right)*, 4. **FACE**.

##### Marching in Column of Files, to March in Line.

132. 1. *By the right (or left) flank*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide (right or left)*.

##### To Change Direction in Column of Files.

133. Being in march: 1. *Column right (or left)*; or, 1. *Column half right (or half left)*, 2. **MARCH**.

The leading file wheels to the right, the pivot man shortening two or three steps and moving over a quarter, or an eighth of a circle, whose radius is about eighteen inches; the other files follow the first and wheel on the same ground.

If at a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Column right (or left)*, 3. **MARCH**; or, 2. *Column half right (or half left)*, 3. **MARCH**.

##### The Oblique March.

134. For the instruction of recruits, the squad being correctly aligned, the instructor will face the squad half right and half left, point out to the men their relative positions and explain that these are to be maintained in the oblique march.

135. Being in line at a halt, or marching: 1. *Right (or left) oblique*, 2. **MARCH**.

Each man half faces to the right, at the same time stepping off in the new direction. He preserves his relative position, keeping his shoulders parallel to those of the man next on his right, and so regulates his step as to make the head of this man conceal the heads of the other men in the rank; the ranks remain parallel to their original front.

The rear rank conforms to the foregoing, each man marching so as to cover his file leader upon resuming the original direction.

At the command *halt*, the men halt, faced to the front.

To resume the original direction: 1. *Forward*. 2. **MARCH**.

The men half face to the left in marching and then move straight to the front.

If marking time while obliquing, the oblique march is resumed by the commands: 1. *Oblique*. 2. **MARCH**.

The short step will not be used in the oblique march.

136. In the oblique march, the guide is always without indication, on the side toward which the oblique is made. On resuming the direct march the guide is without indication on the side it was previous to the oblique. If the oblique be executed from a halt, the guide is announced on taking the direct march in line.

*These rules are general.*

137. The column of files obliques by the same commands and means.

#### *To March in Double Time.*

138. Being in line at a halt: 1. *Forward*. 2. *Guide (right or left)*. 3. *Double time*. 4. **MARCH**.

#### *To Pass from Quick to Double Time and the Reverse.*

139. 1. *Double time*. 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, given as the left foot strikes the ground, advance the right foot in quick time, and step off with the left foot in double time.

To resume quick time: 1. *Quick time*. 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, given as either foot is coming to the ground, the squad resumes quick time.

#### **TURNINGS.**

##### *To Turn and Halt.*

140. Marching in line: 1. *Squad right (or left)*. 2. **MARCH**. 3. **FRONT**.

At the command *march*, the right file halts and the front rank man or pivot faces to the right; the other files half face to the right in marching, and without changing the length or cadence of the step place themselves successively upon the alignment established by the right file; all dress to the right without command. The instructor verifies the alignment from the pivot flank and commands: **FRONT**.

The rear rank men conform to the movements of their file leaders.

If at a halt, the movement is executed in the same manner; if at the order and the movement is executed in quick time, the pieces are held at the trail while in motion.

*Squad half right (or half left)* is executed in the same manner, except that the pivot makes a half face to the right.

##### *To Turn and Advance.*

141. Marching in line: 1. *Right (or left) turn*. 2. **MARCH**. 3. *Forward*. 4. **MARCH**. 5. *Guide (right or left)*.

At the second command, the front rank man on the right, who is the guide, marches by the right flank, taking the short step without changing the cadence; the other men half face to the right in marching, and moving by the shortest line successively place themselves on the new line, when they take the short step.

The rear rank men conform to the movements of their file leaders. When the last man has arrived on the new line, the fourth command is given, when all resume the full step.

During the turn, the guide is without command on the pivot flank. The guide is announced on resuming the full step.

If at a halt, the movement is similarly executed, and in quick time, unless the command *double time* is given.

*Right (or left) half turn* is executed in the same manner, except that the guide makes a half face to the right.

Should the command *halt* be given during the execu-

tion of the movement, those men who are on the new line halt; the others halt on arriving on the line; all dress to the right without command.

The instructor verifies the alignment from the pivot flank and commands: **FRONT**.

#### **FIRINGS.**

142. The post of the instructor is three paces in rear of the squad, but in actual firing he places himself where he can best make himself heard and at the same time observe the effect of the fire; the objective should be in plain view and so designated as to be easily distinguished by all.

143. The commands for firing are the same whether the squad be standing, kneeling or lying down. The commands for kneeling or lying down precede the commands for firing.

144. At the preparatory command for firing, the squad being in line standing, the rear rank men close, as explained for loading (Par. 77); and the cartridge box if worn is slipped to the hip and opened; it is closed and replaced after executing *cease firing*.

##### *Volley Firing.*

145. The squad being in line fronting the object to be fired upon, pieces loaded: 1. *Fire by squad*. 2. *At (such an object)*. 3. *At (so many) yards*. 4. *Squad*. 5. **READY**. 6. **AIM**. 7. **FIRE**. 8. **LOAD**.

To fire another volley at the same objective with the same line of sight: 1. *Squad*. 2. **READY**. 3. **AIM**. 4. **FIRE**. 5. **LOAD**.

To fire another volley at the same objective but with a new line of sight: 1. *At (so many) yards*. 2. *Squad*. 3. **READY**. 4. **AIM**. 5. **FIRE**. 6. **LOAD**.

To fire another volley at a new objective and with a new line of sight: 1. *At (such an object)*. 2. *At (so many) yards*. 3. *Squad*. 4. **READY**. 5. **AIM**. 6. **FIRE**. 7. **LOAD**.

146. The objective and range will be indicated in the preparatory commands for all kinds of fire, as illustrated in the preceding examples.

If the objective be at a considerable angle to the front of the squad the instructor will change the front of the squad so as to face it.

The commands are given at sufficient intervals to allow them to be executed as already prescribed. The command *fire* is given when the pieces appear to be steady.

*These rules are general.*

##### *To Cease Firing.*

##### **147. CEASE FIRING.**

The men stop firing, draw cartridge or eject the empty shell, lower the sight leaf and take the order, order kneeling or the position lying down, as the case may be. If standing the rear rank men then step back and cover their file leaders.

148. The command (or signal) *cease firing*, is always used to stop the firing and may be given at any time after the first preparatory command for firing, whether the firing has actually commenced or not. *This rule is general.*

##### **149. 1. CEASE FIRING. 2. LOAD.**

The firing will stop; such pieces as are already loaded will be brought at once to the position of load; the others will be loaded.

This is intended to interrupt the firing, for the purpose of steadying the men, or to change to another method of firing.

##### *To Fire at Will.*

150. 1. *Fire at will*. 2. *At (such an object)*. 3. *At (so many yards)*. 4. *Squad*. 5. **READY**. 6. **COMMENCE FIRING**.

At the command *commence firing* each man independently of the others takes careful aim at the object, fires,



loads and continues the fire as rapidly as is consistent with taking careful aim at each shot. The men should be taught to load rapidly and to aim deliberately.

#### *Bayonet Exercise.*

151. The object of this drill is to make the soldier quick and proficient in handling his piece.

It is intended merely to prescribe the manner of executing the movements laid down, but not to restrict the number of movements, leaving to the discretion of company commanders and the ingenuity of instructors the selection of such other exercises as accord with the object of the drill.

As soon as the movements are executed accurately, the commands are given rapidly; expertness in the bayonet exercise depending mostly on quickness of motion.

152. In taking intervals and distances, the normal interval and distance when armed is four paces; when unarmed, two paces.

#### *To Take Intervals.*

153. Being in line at a halt: 1. *To the right (or left) take intervals.* 2. **MARCH.**

At the first command, the rear rank steps back four paces; at the command *march*, the man on the left of each rank stands fast; the other men face to the right and step off, each man halting faced to the front, when he has the proper interval.

#### *To Assemble.*

154. 1. *To the right (or left) assemble.* 2. **MARCH.**

The front rank man on the right stands fast; the other men close to their proper places.

#### *To Take Distances.*

155. Being in line at a halt, and having counted fours: 1. *Front take distance.* 2. **MARCH.**

Number one of each four of the front rank moves straight to the front; number two moves off as soon as number one has advanced the specified distance; numbers three and four move off in succession in like manner. The rear rank executes what has been prescribed for the front rank, number one moving off as soon as number four front rank has advanced four paces. The proper distance being attained: 1. *Squad.* 2. **HALT.**

#### *To Assemble.*

156. 1. *Assemble.* 2. **MARCH.**

Number one of the front rank stands fast; the other men move forward and close to their proper places.

157. Intervals or distances having been taken and the squad being at the carry or order with bayonets fixed: 1. *Bayonet exercise.* 2. **GUARD.**

At the command *guard*, half face to the right, carry back and place the right foot about twice its length to the rear and three inches to the right, the feet at little less than a right angle, the right toe pointing squarely to the right, both knees bent slightly, weight of the body held equally on both legs; at the same time throw the point of the bayonet to the front, at the height of the chin, barrel turned slightly to the left, grasping the piece lightly with both hands, the right at the small of the stock, the left between lower band and lock plate; the right hand in line with the left hip and at the height of the belt, both arms held free from the body and without constraint.

158. 1. *Carry.* 2. **ARMS;** or, 1. *Order.* 2. **ARMS.**

Resume the carry or order as for charge bayonet.

159. Being at the guard: **ADVANCE.**

Move the left foot quickly forward, twice its length; follow with the right foot the same distance.

160. **RETIRE.**

Move the right foot quickly to the rear, twice its length; follow with the left foot the same distance.

161. 1. *Front.* 2. **PASS.**

Advance the right foot quickly, fifteen inches in front of the left, keeping right toe squarely to the right; advance the left foot to its relative position in front.

162. 1. *Rear.* 2. **PASS.**

Carry the left foot quickly fifteen inches to the rear of the right; place the right foot in its relative position in rear, keeping right toe squarely to the right.

163. 1. *Right.* 2. **PASS.**

Face to the right, turning on the ball of the left foot, at the same time carry the right foot quickly to its position in rear.

164. 1. *Left.* 2. **VOLT.**

Face to the left, turning on the ball of the left foot, at the same time carry the right foot quickly to its position in rear.

*Right rear and left rear volts* are similarly executed, facing about on the ball of the left foot.

The foregoing movements are first executed without arms.

#### *Parries.*

165. 1. *Right (or left).* 2. **PARRY.**

Move the point of the bayonet about six inches to the right.

**GUARD.**

Bring the piece back to the position of guard.

In the preliminary drill, after the parries and points, the position of guard is resumed, by command, after each movement.

When the men have become proficient the instructor will cause them to resume the guard without command.

166. 1. *Right low.* 2. **PARRY.**

Move the point of the bayonet quickly opposite the left shoulder; describe a semi-circle from left to right, bring the point of the bayonet to the height of and in front of the right knee, barrel to the left, butt under right forearm, elbow two or three inches higher than the right shoulder.

167. 1. *Left low.* 2. **PARRY.**

Lower the point of the bayonet and describe a semi-circle by carrying the piece to the left, covering the left side of the body, barrel down, left forearm behind the piece, point of the bayonet at the height of and to the left of the left knee, right forearm above the line of the eyes, hand well to the left.

168. 1. *Head.* 2. **PARRY.**

Raise the piece with both hands about eight inches in front of and four inches above the head, barrel downward and supported between thumb and forefinger of left hand midway between upper and lower bands.

169. In the different parries the piece should be lowered, raised or inclined to the right or left so as to cover the point attacked; the thrusts and lunge should be executed on the same principles, taking timely advantage of an adversary's failure to cover himself from attack.

When a lunge is made at a foot soldier, the point of the bayonet is directed at his breast. In the case of a horseman, it is directed against his side or against the head or flank of his horse. The foot soldier should endeavor to gain the horseman's left side, as the latter cannot use his arms on that side to advantage.

#### *Points.*

170. **THRUST.**

Thrust the piece quickly forward to the full length of the left arm slipping it through the left hand to the guard; give it a rotary motion so as to bring the barrel up, and direct the point of the bayonet at the point to be attacked; at the same time straighten vigorously the right leg, throwing the weight forward on the left.

The piece must be held so as to cover the point most exposed to the enemy's attack.

In the thrust from the head parry and from the right and left low parries the piece is not rotated.

171. *Lunge.*

Executed in the same manner as the thrust, except that the left foot is carried forward twice its length.

172. *Butt to front.*

Raise the piece nearly vertical, and bring it back, barrel in the hollow of right shoulder. (TWO.) Strike quickly, the butt to the front, straighten right leg, barrel resting on right shoulder.

173. *Butt to right (or left).*

The same as butt to front, except that in executing the first motion, the men make a right volt. In resuming the guard, the men make a left volt.

174. *Butt to rear.*

Turn to the right on both heels, keeping the feet nearly at right angles, right toe to the rear, barrel downward and horizontal, right hand opposite the neck, left hand near lower band, left leg straight. (TWO.) Strike to the rear.

In resuming the guard, the men turn to the left on both heels and bring the left toe to the front.

175. To thrust or lunge from a parry, first give the command for the parry, then follow quickly with the command for the thrust or lunge.

*Examples.*

1. *Right.* 2. *PARRY.* 3. *LUNGE.* 4. *GUARD.*

1. *Head.* 2. *PARRY.* 3. *THRUST.* 4. *GUARD.*

176. The execution of a parry and a thrust or lunge may be determined by one command of execution.

*Example.*

1. *Head.* 2. *PARRY AND THRUST.* 3. *GUARD.*

At the second command execute the parry, then thrust quickly; resume the guard at the third command.

177. When the soldier is thoroughly familiar with the different steps, parries and points, the instructor combines several of them by giving the commands in quick succession, increasing the rapidity and number of movements in combination as the men acquire skill.

*Examples.*

1. *ADVANCE, HEAD PARRY AND LUNGE.*

1. *RETIRE, LEFT PARRY AND THRUST.*

1. *FRONT PASS, RIGHT PARRY AND THRUST; LEFT VOLT HEAD PARRY AND THRUST.*

Execute each in the order named, and resume the guard without command.

178. Every movement to the front should be followed by an attack (thrust or lunge); every movement to the rear by a parry and a thrust, as indicated in the foregoing examples.

**SCHOOL OF THE COMPANY.**

179. The company is grouped into squads, under the leadership and immediate control of the non-commissioned officers, who are held responsible for discipline and order, in camp and quarters, and are trained as leaders of groups for battle.

180. The four or squad consists of four files, a corporal and seven privates; the corporal is the squad leader.

181. The term *four* is used in the commands and explanations of the close order drill; the term *squad* in the extended order drill.

182. Two or three squads form a section under a sergeant as chief of section; the section is used in the extended order drills; it is not a subdivision for movements in close order.

183. The company is divided into two platoons, each platoon into two sections

Experienced privates are assigned as leaders of such squads as have no corporals. The squad leader is covered in the rear rank by a reliable man who acts as leader in his absence.

If any man of the front rank be absent he is replaced by his rear rank man.

If the company consists of an odd number of fours, the right platoons will be the stronger; if less than four sets of four are present, the division into platoons is omitted; if a platoon consists of an odd number of fours, the right section will be the stronger; if a platoon consists of less than four sets of fours, the division into sections is omitted.

The platoons and sections are numbered from right to left, when in line, and from head to rear when in column; these designations change when, by facing about, the right becomes the left of the line, or the head becomes the rear of the column.

The squads are designated as *right, left or center squad of first (or such) section.*

**Posts of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Field Music.**

184. The captain is two paces in front of the center of the company.

The first lieutenant is chief of the first platoon and is two paces in rear of its center.

The second lieutenant is chief of the second platoon and is two paces in rear of its center.

When there is a third lieutenant he is posted on the left of the second lieutenant.

The first sergeant is two paces in rear of second file from the right of the first platoon; he is not attached to a section.

The second sergeant is in the front rank on the right of the first platoon; he is right guide of this platoon and also of the company, and chief of the first section.

The third sergeant is in the front rank, on the left of the second platoon; he is left guide of this platoon and also of the company, and is chief of the fourth section.

The fourth sergeant is two paces in rear of the second file from the left of the first platoon; he is left guide of the first platoon, and chief of the second section.

The fifth sergeant is two paces in rear of the second file from the right of the second platoon; he is right guide of the second platoon, and chief of the third section.

The field music, when not united in the battalion, is in the line of file closers, on the right of the first lieutenant and conforms to the movements of the file closers. On the march, when required to play, it marches at the head of the column.

Absent officers and non-commissioned officers are generally replaced by the next in rank or grade.

**Instruction of Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.**

185. The captain is responsible for the theoretical and practical instruction of his officers and non-commissioned officers. He requires them to study and recite these regulations so that they can explain thoroughly every movement before it is put into execution.

**To Size the Company.**

186. The men fall in a single rank; the first sergeant faces them to the right and arranges them according to height, tallest man in front; the corporals take place according to height, the tallest as the seventh man, the others as every eighth man in rear. The sergeant commands: 1, *In two ranks form company.* 2. *MARCH.*

At the command *march*, the man in front faces to the left, the second man places himself in the rear rank covering the man in front; the remaining men close and



form alternately in the front and rear rank, each facing to the front upon arriving in his place.

The sergeant then commands: 1. *Count*, 2. **FOURS**.

Beginning on the right the men of each rank count *one, two, three, four*, and so on to the left. The sergeants do not count.

If the four on the left consist of less than four men, they are assigned to other fours and placed in the line of file closers, each in rear of the four to which assigned; if the left four consists of more than three and less than six men, the number is increased to six or seven by taking the required number of men from a like number of fours, at the rate of one from each, number three or numbers two and three being blank files.

The company is then divided into platoons and sections; the sergeants take their posts.

The company being sized, the fours habitually form in the same order.

#### *To Form the Company.*

187. In all formations under arms the men fall in at the order with bayonets unfixed.

Whenever a company falls in without arms, the men form as when under arms.

At the sounding of the assembly, the first sergeant takes his position in front of where the center of the company is to be, and facing it, makes the signal for assembly, or commands: **FALL IN**.

The second sergeant places himself facing to the front, where the right of the company is to rest, and at such a point that the center of the company will be six paces from and opposite the first sergeant; the fours form in their proper places on the left of the second sergeant, superintended by the other sergeants, who then take their posts. Fours of less than six men should be increased or broken up as provided for the left four (Par. 186).

The first sergeant brings the company to the right shoulder and calls the roll; each man answers "Here" and comes to the order as his name is called; the first sergeant then faces about, salutes the captain, reports the result of the roll call, and without command takes his post, passing around the right flank.

The lieutenants take their posts and draw sword as soon as the first sergeant has reported.

This formation will be used in the field and as far as practicable in camp and garrison.

188. When the company becomes reduced in number and the fours broken up, the men fall in without regard to fours, but in their relative order, closing to the right so as to leave no blank files, the corporals placing themselves as number four, front rank. The sergeants superintend the formation and take their posts; the first sergeant calls the roll, has the company count fours, forms the left four according to par. 186, and, if the company be large enough, divides it into platoons and sections; he then reports and takes his post as explained.

#### *Alignments.*

189. The alignments are executed as prescribed in the School of the Soldier.

At each alignment the captain steps back two paces in prolongation of the line before giving his commands. This rule applies also to chiefs of subdivisions in column, in company and battalion drill.

At the command *front*, guides take their posts if not already there. This applies also to guides of platoons in company drill, and, in battalion, to guides of subdivisions in column.

#### *To Open Ranks.*

190. Being at a halt, at the carry or order: 1. *Open ranks*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **FRONT**.

At the first command, the right and left guides step

three paces to the rear to mark the new alignment of the rear rank; the first and second lieutenants place themselves on the right and left of the front rank; the third lieutenant covers the second, in the rear rank; the other file-closers step back three paces in rear of the line of the guides; the captain goes to the right flank, and sees that the guides are on a line parallel to the front rank; then places himself facing to the left, three paces in front of the right of the company and commands: **MARCH**. At this command the lieutenants take post three paces in front of the company, opposite their posts in line. Should a non-commissioned officer be chief of platoon, he remains in the line of file-closers opposite the center of his platoon; the front rank dresses to the right; the rear rank men step backward, halt a little in rear of the line established by the guides, and then dress to the right on that line; the file-closers dress to the right.

The captain aligns the officers and the front rank; the right guide, the rear rank; the captain verifies the alignment of the rear rank and of the file-closers; the officers and file-closers cast their eyes to the front as soon as their alignment is verified.

At the command *front*, the men cast their eyes to the front, the guides resume their posts in the front, rank, and the captain takes post facing to the front, three paces in front of the right guide.

#### *To Close Ranks.*

191. Being at a halt: 1. *Close ranks*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, the lieutenants face about and resume their posts in line; the rear rank closes to facing distance, each man covering his file leader; the file-closers close to two paces from the rear rank; the captain takes his post.

192. The company executes the *halt, rests, facings, settings up, steps, marchings, turnings, manual of arms, and firings*; resumes *attention, kneels, lies down and rises*, as explained in the School of the Soldier, substituting in the commands, *company* for *squad*.

The same rule applies to platoons, detachments, details, etc., substituting their designation for *squad* in the commands.

While marching, the arms swing naturally, the hands moving about three inches in front and rear of the seam of the trousers.

In executing the *turn* and *halt*, the captain goes to the pivot flank of his company; the guide at the pivot halts or stands fast and resumes his place at the command *front*.

193. In the different firings, at the first command for loading or firing, the captain places himself three paces in rear of the file-closers, opposite the center of the company. After the command *cease firing*, the captain returns to his place in line.

Enlisted men in the line of file closers do not execute the loadings and firings.

Guides and enlisted men in the line of file closers execute the manual of arms during the drill unless specially excused, when they remain at the order. During ceremonies they execute all movements.

Guides in front marking the line stand at the order, ~~break~~.

A non-commissioned officer as guide, or in command of a subdivision or detachment, carries his rifle as the men do.

*These rules are general.*

#### *To Dismiss the Company.*

194. Being in line at a halt, the captain directs the first sergeant: *Dismiss the company*. The officers fall out, the first sergeant salutes, steps in front of the company and commands: 1. *Port*, 2. **ARMS**, 3. **DISMISSED**.

*Marching in Line to Effect a Slight Change of Direction.*

195. The captain commands: *Incline to the right* (or *left*).

The guide advances gradually the left shoulder and marches in the new direction; all the files advance the left shoulder and conform to the movements of the guide, lengthening or shortening the step, according as the change is toward the side of the guide, or the side opposite.

*Being in Line to March by the Flank.*

196. 1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. MARCH.

The front rank of each four wheels ninety degrees to the right on a fixed pivot, the pivot man turning strictly in his place; the man on the marching flank maintains the full step, moving on the arc of a circle with the pivot man as the center; the men dress on the marching flank, shorten their steps according to their distance from it, and keep their intervals from the pivot.

The rear rank men cover their file leaders and conform to their movements. Upon the completion of the wheel, the front rank of each four takes the full step, marching in a direction parallel to the former front of the company; the rear rank shortens the step until it gains the distance of forty-four inches; the front rank of the second four is forty-four inches from the rear rank of the first four, and so on to the rear of the column; the right and left guides place themselves forty-four inches in front and rear respectively of the left file of the leading and rear fours; the file closers face to the right and maintain their relative positions.

197. The captain in column of fours, twos, and files is by the side of the leading guide on the flank opposite the file closers; he takes this position at the command *march*.

The leading and rear guides in column of fours, twos, and files are in front and rear respectively of the leading or rear file on the side opposite the file closers.

The file closers march two paces from the flank of the column and see that the fours maintain their distances.

In all changes by fours from line into column and column into line, or from column of fours to twos, files or the reverse, and in all wheels about by fours, either in line or column, the captain and guides take their proper places in the most convenient way as soon as practicable.

All wheels by fours, except in changing direction, are executed on a fixed pivot.

*These rules are general.*

*Being in Line to Form Column of Fours and Halt.*

198. 1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. MARCH, 3. *Company*, 4. HALT.

The command *halt* is given as the front ranks complete the wheel; the rear ranks fall back to forty-four inches, and all dress toward the marching flank.

199. In column of fours, the ranks dress toward the side of the guide.

In all wheelings by fours, the forward march is taken upon the completion of the movement, unless the command *halt* be given.

*These rules are general.*

*Marching in Column of Fours to Change Direction.*

200. 1. *Column right* (or *left*), 2. MARCH.

The leading rank of four wheels on a movable pivot, executed as prescribed in Par. 196, except that the pivot man takes steps of ten inches in quick time and twelve inches in double time, gaining ground forward so as to clear the wheeling point; the wheel completed, the leading rank takes the full step, the man on the side of the guide follows forty-four inches in rear of the guide, the other ranks move forward and wheel on the

same ground. If the change of direction be toward the side of the guide, he shortens his step and wheels to the right as if on the pivot flank of a rank of four; if the change be to the side opposite the guide, he wheels as if on the marching flank of a rank of four.

*Column half right* (or *half left*), is similarly executed, each rank of four wheeling forty-five degrees.

*To Put the Column of Fours in March and Change Direction at the Same Time.*

201. 1. *Forward*, 2. *Column right* (or *left*); or, 2. *Column half right* (or *half left*), 3. MARCH.

*Being in Line to Form Column of Fours and Change Direction.*

202. 1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. *Column right* (or *left*); or, 2. *Column half right* (or *half left*), 3. MARCH.

Execute *fours right* and then change direction. (Par. 200).

*Being in Line, to March in Columns of Fours to the Front.*

203. 1. *Right* (or *left*) *forward*, 2. *Fours right* (or *left*), 3. MARCH.

At the command *march*, the right guide places himself in front of the left file of the right four; the right four moves straight to the front, shortening the first three or four steps, the rear rank falls back to forty-four inches; the other fours wheel to the right each on a fixed pivot (Par. 196); the second four when its wheel is two-thirds completed, wheels to the left on a movable pivot (Par. 200), and follows the first; the other fours having wheeled to the right, move forward and each wheels to the left on a movable pivot, so as to follow the second.

*Being in Column of Fours, to Change the File Closers from One Flank of the Column to the Other.*

204. 1. *File closers on left* (or *right*) *flank*, 2. MARCH.

At the first command, the file closers close into the flank of the column, and at the command *march*, dart through the column. The captain and guides change to their proper positions.

*To Oblique in Column of Fours, and to Resume the Direct March.*

205. 1. *Right* (or *left*) *oblique*, 2. MARCH.

Each four obliques as prescribed for the squad (Par. 135).

The leading guide is the guide of the column when the oblique is toward his flank; when the oblique is toward the opposite flank the guide of the front rank of the leading four is the guide of the column.

To resume the direct march: 1. *Forward*, 2. MARCH.

*To March in the Column of Fours to the Rear.*

206. *Fours right* (or *left*) *about*, 2. MARCH.

Each four wheels 180 degrees to the right (Par. 196). The man on the marching flank of the rear rank of each four preserves his distance; the man on the pivot flank closes up to his file leader, covers him during the wheel, and on its completion falls back to his proper distance.

The file closers do not pass through the column, but gain the space to the right or left necessary to preserve their interval from the flank.

*To Form Line from Column of Fours.*

207. To the right or left: 1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. MARCH, 3. *Guide* (right or left); or, 3. *Company*, 4. HALT.

At the command *march*, the fours wheel to the right. The rear rank of each four closes to facing distance during the wheel, and, if in double time, takes the distance of 36 inches, should the line advance on the completion of the wheel.



The guide is announced, or the command *halt* is given, the instant the fours unite in line.

If the line be formed toward the side of the file closers, they close in to the flank of the column at the first command, and at the command *march* dart through the column, between the rear rank of one four and the front rank of the succeeding four.

208. On right or left: 1. *On right (or left) into line*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Company*, 4. **HALT**, 5. **FRONT**.

At the command *march*, the leading four wheels to the right on a movable pivot and moves forward, dressing to the right, the guide places himself on its right; each of the other fours march a distance equal to its front, beyond the wheeling point of the four next preceding, wheel to the right and advances as explained for the first four; the rear guide places himself on the left of the rear four after it halts. The rear rank of each four closes to facing distance as the front rank commences to wheel.

At the command *halt*, given when the leading four has advanced company distance in the new direction, it halts and dresses to the right; the other fours successively halt and dress upon arriving in line.

The command *front* is given when the left four completes its dressing.

If the movement be executed toward the side opposite the file closers, each follows the four nearest him, passing in front of the following four.

209. In movements where it is prescribed that the leading four, or subdivision, moves company or subdivision distance to the front and then halts, it may be halted at a less distance when necessary. *This rule is general.*

210. To the front: 1. *Right (or left) front into line*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Company*, 4. **HALT**, 5. **FRONT**.

At the command *march*, the leading four moves straight to the front, dressing to the left; the guide in front places himself on its left; the other fours oblique to the right till opposite their places in line, when each marches to the front.

At the command *halt*, given when the leading four has advanced company distance, it halts and dresses to the left; the other fours halt and dress to the left upon arriving in line; the rear ranks close to facing distance upon halting; the guide in rear places himself on the right of the front rank upon the arrival of the last four in line; the command *front* is given when the last four completes its dressing.

If the movement be made toward the side of the file closers, they dart through the column as the oblique commences.

If marching in double time, or in quick time, and the command be *double time*, the captain commands, *Guide left*, immediately after the command *march*; the leading four moves to the front in quick time, its rear rank closing to facing distance; the other fours oblique in double time, each taking the quick time and dressing to the left upon arriving in line; the rear rank on arriving in line closes to facing distance.

*Being in Line, to Face to the Rear and to March to the Rear.*

211. 1. *Fours right (or left) about*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Company*, 4. **HALT**; or, 3. *Guide (right or left)*.

The fours wheel about (Par. 206); the file closers dart through the nearest intervals.

212. The company at a halt, may be marched a few paces to the rear by the commands: 1. *Company*, 2. *About*, 3. **FACE**, 4. *Forward*, 5. *Guide (right or left)*, 6. **MARCH**; or, if in march, by the commands: 1. *To the rear*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide (right or left)*.

The guides step into the rear rank now become the front rank; the file closers on facing about maintain their relative positions.

### *Obstacles.*

213. Marching in line, to pass obstacles: 1. (*So many*) *fours from right (or left) to rear*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, the designated fours execute *left forward, fours left*, on the four that remains in line next on their left.

The guide closes on the fours that remain in line.

The fours that have broken to the rear are formed in line at the commands: 1. *Rear fours right (or left) front into line*, 2. *Double time*, 3. **MARCH**.

The guide, at the command *march*, hastens to the point where the flank of the company will be when the movement is completed.

*Being in Column of Fours, to Form Column of Twos or Files.*

214. This movement is always executed toward the file closers; it is used only for the purpose of reducing the front of the column to enable it to pass a defile or other narrow place, immediately after which the column of fours should be reformed.

1. *Right (or left) by twos*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the first command, the rear rank of each four closes to facing distance.

At the command *march*, the two files on the right of each four move forward; the two files on the left mark time till disengaged, when they oblique to the right and follow the right files.

The distance between ranks in columns of twos is facing distance; the guides take the same distance in front and rear of the column.

*Being at a Halt, to Form Column of Files.*

215. 1. *Right (or left) by file*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the first command the rear rank of each four closes to facing distance.

At the command *march*, the right file of the leading four moves forward, followed in succession by the files on its left; when the left file of the leading four is about to commence to oblique the right file of the second four moves to the front, and so on to the rear of the column, the men keeping closed as nearly as possible to facing distance; the guides take the same distance.

If marching, the leading file continues the march, the others halt without coming to the order, and resume the march at the proper time.

Column of files from column of twos is similarly executed.

216. A column of twos or files changes direction, is halted, and put in march by the same commands as a column of fours.

The march in column of twos or files is always in quick time.

217. A column of fours, twos, or files may be faced to the rear, or to a flank, and marched a short distance, but no other movements should be executed until the column is again faced to the original front. The officers and non-commissioned officers face with the column and retain their positions.

*Being in Column of Twos or Files, to Form Column of Fours.*

218. This movement is always executed away from the file closers.

Marching in column of twos: 1. *Form fours*, 2. *Left (or right) oblique*, 3. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, the leading two of each four take the short step; the rear two oblique to the left until they uncover the leading two, when they move to the front; the fours having united, the rear ranks fall back to forty-four inches, and all resume the full step.

*Having Formed Column of Files from Column of Twos or Fours, to Form Column of Fours.*

219. 1. *Form fours*, 2. *Left (or right) oblique*, 3. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, the leading file of the first four halts, the rear rank men falling back to forty-four inches as soon as the file in rear has obliqued; the other files of the first four oblique to the left and place themselves successively on the left of the leading file, the rear rank taking the distance of forty-four inches from the front rank; the other fours successively form as explained for the first, the leading file of each halting at forty-four inches from the corresponding file of the four next in front.

Column of twos is formed from column of files on the same principles.

*Movements by Platoons.*

220. In movements by platoons each chief repeats such commands as are to be immediately executed by his platoon. Each chief gives the commands prescribed so as to insure the execution of movements by his platoon at the proper time.

In column whenever a subdivision is dressed its chief, after commanding *front*, places himself two paces in front of its center; in movements where the subdivisions are not dressed, he takes this position as soon as the column is formed.

*These rules are general.*

*Being in Line, to Form Column of Platoons to the Right or Left.*

221. 1. *Platoons right (or left)*, 2. **MARCH**.

Executed by each platoon. (Par. 140.)

At the first command, the chiefs of platoons caution: *Platoon right*; and at the command *march*, take their places two paces from the pivots of their platoons verify the alignment, and command: **FRONT**.

222. Whenever a company is formed in column of platoons or line of platoons in columns of fours, the fourth and fifth sergeants place themselves as guides of their platoons as soon as practicable; they return to their posts in the line of file closers when the company unites in line or column of fours, unless they mark an alignment.

223. The position of the captain in column of platoons is on the side of the guide, three paces from the flank of the column, abreast of the leading platoon.

224. The column of platoons is put in march, halted, obliques, and resumes the direct march by the same commands as the company in line.

*Being in Line, to Form Column of Platoon, and Move Forward Without Halting.*

225. 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right (or left) turn*, 3. **MARCH**, 4. *Forward*, 5. **MARCH**, 6. *Guide (right or left)*.

Executed by each platoon. (Par. 11). The fifth command is given when both platoons have completed the turn.

226. The guide of the second platoon preserves the trace, step and a distance equal to the front of the platoon. *This rule is general.*

*Being in Column of Platoons, to Change Direction.*

227. Being in march: 1. *Column right (or left)*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the first command, the chief of the first platoon commands: *Right turn*.

At the command *march*, the first platoon turns to the right (Par. 141), its chief adding: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**, on the completion of the turn.

The second platoon marches squarely up to the turning point and then changes direction by the same commands and means as the first.

*Column half right (or half left)* is similarly executed:

each chief gives the preparatory command: *Right (or left) half turn*.

228. In changing direction in column of subdivisions, each chief, on the completion of the movement by his subdivision, announces the guide on the side it was previous to the turn. *This rule is general.*

*To Put the Column of Platoons in March and Change Direction at the Same Time.*

229. 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide right (or left)*, 3. *Column right (or left)*; or, 3. *Column half right (or half left)*, 4. **MARCH**.

*Being in Column of Platoons, to Face to the Rear and to March to the Rear.*

230. 1. *Fours right (or left) about*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Company*, 4. **HALT**; or, 5. *Guide right (or left)*.

If one platoon be smaller than the other, the guide of the second platoon regains the trace and distance on the march.

*To Form Line from Column of Platoons.*

231. Before forming line to, or on the right or left, the captain requires the guide of the second platoon on the flank toward which the movement is to be executed to cover; if marching, he announces the guide on that flank, if not already there.

232. To the right or left: 1. *Platoons right (or left)*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **FRONT**.

Executed by each platoon (Par. 140).

Each chief of platoon obliques to the left until he clears the marching flank, and takes his post.

The captain verifies the alignment and commands: **FRONT**.

233. To the right or left and continue the march: 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right (or left) turn*, 3. **MARCH**, 4. *Guide (right or left)*, 5. *Forward*, 6. **MARCH**.

Executed by each platoon (Par. 141). The sixth command is given when both platoons have completed the turn.

Each chief of platoon obliques to the left until he clears the marching flank, and takes his post.

234. On the right or left: 1. *On right (or left) into line*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. **FRONT**.

The chief of the first platoon commands: *Right turn*. The first platoon turns to the right; when the guide has advanced platoon distance, the platoon is halted by its chief, who passes around the right flank to his post.

The second platoon marches straight to the front; its chief commands: 1. *Right turn*, 2. **MARCH**, when his platoon is opposite the right of its place in line; the platoon turns to the right and when the right file has arrived on the line the platoon is halted by its chief, who passes around the left flank to his post.

The captain verifies the alignment and commands: **FRONT**.

*Being in Line, to Form Column of Platoons to the Front.*

235. Being at a halt: 1. *Right (or left) by platoons*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide left (or right)*.

At the first command, the chiefs of platoons pass in double time to their places in front of their platoons, the chief of the right platoon commands: *Forward*; the chief of the left: *Right oblique*.

At the command *march*, the right platoon moves forward. The chief of the left platoon commands: **MARCH**, when his platoon is disengaged; the platoon obliques to the right, the chief commanding: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide left*, when the left guide arrives in the trace of the guide of the leading platoon.

If marching, the chief of the left platoon commands: 1. *Second platoon*, 2. *Mark time*, 3. **MARCH**, adding: 1. *Right oblique*, 2. **MARCH**, when his platoon is disengaged; the movement is completed as from a halt.



*Being in Column of Platoons, to Form Company to the Front.*

236. Being at a halt: 1. *Form company*, 2. *Right* (or *left*) *oblique*, 3. **MARCH**, 4. **FRONT**.

At the second command, the chief of the first platoon commands: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Guide left*; the chief of the second commands: *Right oblique*.

The first platoon advances platoon distance, when its chief commands: 1. *Platoon*, 2. **HALT**, 3. *Left*, 4. **DRESS**, and passes around the left flank to his post. The second platoon obliques to the right, its chief commanding: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide left*, when the platoon is opposite its place in line; on arriving near the line, the chief halts the platoon, commands: 1. *Left*, 2. **DRESS**, and passes around the right flank to his post.

The captain superintends the alignment from the left flank.

If marching in quick time, the chief of the leading platoon commands: *Guide left*, and the movement is completed as just explained.

If marching in double time and the command be *double time*, the captain commands: *Guide left* (or *right*) immediately after the command *march*; the chief of the leading platoon cautions it to advance in quick time and commands: *Guide left*; the chief of the second platoon commands: *Double time*, and when the platoon is abreast of the leading platoon commands: 1. *Quick time*, 2. **MARCH**; the platoons having united, the chiefs pass around the flanks to their posts.

If marching in double time, the chief of the first platoon, at the first command of the captain, commands: *Quick time*.

*Being in Column of Platoons, to March by the Flank.*

237. 1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide* (*right* or *left*).

The right and left guides of each platoon place themselves as in Par. 196, each chief of platoon on the left of his leading guide; the leading guide of the platoon on the flank announced is the guide of the company; the leading guide of the other platoon marches abreast of him and preserves the interval necessary to form front into line.

The position of the captain is on the side opposite the file closers, three paces from the flank and abreast of the chiefs of platoons.

Marching by the flank of platoons, the right platoon is the first, the left the second.

*To march again in column of platoons.*

1. *Fours right* (or *left*), 2. **MARCH**, 3. *Guide right* (or *left*).

*Being in line, to advance in line of platoons in columns of fours.*

238. 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right* (or *left*) *forward*, 3. *Fours right* (or *left*), 4. **MARCH**, 5. *Guide* (*right* or *left*).

At the first command, the chiefs pass quickly around the flanks and place themselves in front of their platoons.

At the command *march*, each platoon executes the movement, prescribed for a company (Par. 203).

To form again in line: 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right* (or *left*) *front into line*, 3. **MARCH**, 4. *Company*, 5. **HALT**, 6. **FRONT**.

Each platoon forms front into line; the chiefs of platoons return to their posts by dropping to the rear or by passing around the heads of their platoons, according as the front into line is executed toward the side of the file closers or toward the side opposite.

The command *halt* is given when the leading fours have advanced platoon distance.

If the movement be executed in double time, the captain commands: *Guide left* (or *right*) after the command *march*.

*Being in column of fours, to form front into line of platoons in columns of fours.*

239. 1. *Right* (or *left*) *front into line of platoons in columns of fours*, 2. **MARCH**.

The first platoon is marched platoon distance to the front and halted; the second executes *column half right*, and having gained its interval (Par. 237), *column half left*, and is halted abreast of the first platoon.

*Being in column of fours to form on right or left into line of platoons in columns of fours.*

240. 1. *On right* (or *left*) *into line of platoons in columns of fours*, 2. **MARCH**.

The first platoon executes *column right*, advances platoon distance and twelve paces in the new direction and is halted; the second is marched beyond the first and when opposite its place executes *column right* and is halted abreast of the first platoon.

*Marching in line of platoons in columns of fours, to form column of fours to the right or left.*

241. 1., *Platoons* 2. *Column right* (or *left*), 3. **MARCH**.

The chiefs pass around the heads of their platoons as they are about to unite in column of fours.

*Being in column of platoons, to form column of fours.*

242. 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right* (or *left*) *forward*, 3. *Fours right* (or *left*), 4. **MARCH**.

The chiefs pass around the heads of their platoons as they are about to unite in column of fours.

*Being in column of fours, to form column of platoons.*

243. 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Right* (or *left*) *front into line* 3. **MARCH**, 4. *Company*, 5. **HALT**.

At the second command, each chief places himself near the head of his platoon.

At the command *march*, each platoon executes *right front into line*. (Pars. 210 and 189.)

The command *halt* is given when the leading four of each platoon has advanced platoon distance.

If marching in double time, or quick time, and the command be *double time*, the captain commands: *Guide left* (or *right*) after the command *march*.

*Marching in column of fours, to march in line of platoons in columns of fours to the right or left.*

244. 1. *Platoons*, 2. *Column right* (or *left*), 3. **MARCH**, 4. *Guide* (*right* or *left*).

Each platoon changes direction to the right, and each chief takes his place by the side of his leading guide.

*Route Step.*

245. The column of fours is the habitual column of route. The rate is three to three and a half miles per hour.

Marching in quick time: 1. *Route step*, 2. **MARCH**.

The men carry their pieces at will, keeping the muzzle elevated; they are not required to preserve silence nor keep the step. The ranks cover and preserve their distance.

If from a halt: 1. *Forward*, 2. *Route step*, 3. **MARCH**.

To resume the cadenced step: 1. *Company*, 2. **ATTENTION**.

At the command *attention*, the pieces are brought to the right shoulder and the cadenced step in quick time is resumed.

The company marching in line or in column of platoons may also march in the route step, the rear rank falling back to thirty-six inches.

The company in route step changes direction by the same commands as in the cadenced step.

Upon halting while marching in route step, the men come to the rest at the order.

246. To march at ease: 1. *At ease*, 2. MARCH.

The company marches as in the route step, except that silence is preserved.

The march at ease will be frequently used in the foregoing movements.

To resume the cadenced step: 1. *Company*, 2. ATTENTION.

If halted while marching at ease, the men remain at ease at the order.

At ease, either marching or at a halt, and at the rest, officers carry the sword at will; marching at route step, at will or in the scabbard.

247. The company having been formed, the right may become the left; the flanks the center, and the reverse.

Whenever the flanks become the center, the second and third sergeants take the posts in the line of file closers prescribed for the fifth and fourth sergeants, each with his own platoon; the fourth and fifth sergeants take the posts prescribed for the third and second sergeants. The first sergeant always remains with the original first platoon, when in line; in rear of the second file from the outer flank; taking the corresponding position when the platoons unite in column of fours.

248. The captain holds the file closers responsible for the fours near them and requires them to correct errors.

[The portion of the Drill Regulations here omitted includes the "School of the Battalion;" "Evolutions of the Regiment;" "The Brigade;" "Division" and "Corps," paragraphs 249 to 501 inclusive. Next follows "Extended Order;" here given.]

#### EXTENDED ORDER.

##### *General Principles.*

502. The squad is the basis of extended order.

Men will be taught to regard the squad as the unit from which they ought never to be separated; but if the squad should be broken up or the men become separate, they place themselves under the orders of the nearest leader and remain with his squad as if it were the one to which they originally belonged.

Officers and sergeants will give their attention to preserving the integrity of the squads; they appoint new leaders to replace those disabled, organize new squads when necessary, and see that every man is placed in a squad.

503. This instruction, on account of its importance, will be given as soon as the recruits have had a few drills in close order. The mechanism of the movements is taught on the drill ground (Pars. 115 and 116), with every attention to detail; afterward the movements are executed on varied ground, making use of the accidents of the surface for cover, etc., and observing the conditions of battle.

504. In all instruction in extended order, the movement must be made with reference to an enemy supposed to be in an indicated direction.

505. The enemy is said to be *imaginary* when his position and force are merely assumed; *outlined* when his position and force are indicated by a few men only; and *represented* when a body of troops acting as such has his supposed force and position.

506. Men in extended order fix their attention at the first word of command, the first note of the trumpet or the first motion of the signal; the movement commences immediately upon the completion of the command, trumpet call or signal.

507. Extended order may be taken from any formation.

508. Upon arriving on the line and upon halting, men in extended order face to the front, whether in squads or as individual skirmishers.

509. No commands for dressing are given in extended order; the general alignment is taken toward the base file; the men stand and march at ease (see Par. 246) and pay close attention.

510. When necessary for any chief to leave his post he will return to it as soon as possible.

##### *Leading the Squad.*

511. In the exercise in leading, the movements are executed at signals from the corporal, and as far as possible without commands or cautions; the object being to prepare the squad for the battle exercises by training the men to coöperate with their leader and conform instantly to his wishes.

512. The movements are executed in the most direct manner, first in quick time, then in double time and finally at a run; they should not succeed each other so rapidly as to produce confusion.

513. The corporal is posted three paces in front of the squad, which conforms to his signals and movements.

514. The squad is exercised in turning, marching to the front, rear and by the flank, obliquing, halting, assembling, etc.

515. The man in front of whom the corporal places himself is the guide of the squad, and follows in the trace of the corporal at a distance of three paces.

516. When the corporal does not wish the squad to follow him, he commands: *Guide (right or left)*, and indicates the point of direction; if marching by the flank, he indicates the direction.

517. When the squad is marched to the rear, the corporal moves around the flank and takes his position in front; if the squad is deployed he passes through the nearest interval.

#### THE SQUAD.

##### *General Rules.*

518. The squad is deployed forward when it is in rear of the line to be occupied, and by the flank when it is already on that line. If the squad be at a halt, it is placed in march before deploying forward. If the squad be in march, it is halted before deploying by the flank.

519. The normal interval between skirmishers is two paces; when a greater or less interval is used it will be stated in the preparatory command.

520. Before giving the commands for marching, deploying or assembling, or for increasing or diminishing intervals, the corporal indicates the file which is to be the base or guide, places himself three paces in front of it and indicates the direction.

On halting, the corporal places himself three paces in rear of his squad.

521. The deployment as skirmishers is made on the front rank man of the second file from the right.

The rear rank men place themselves on the alignment to the right of their file leaders as soon as there is interval.

522. If the squad is to kneel or lie down upon halting, the corporal gives the cautionary command: (*kneel or lie down*) upon halting, before giving the commands for deploying. The squad will then kneel (or lie down) at the each halt until otherwise directed.

##### *To Deploy as Skirmishers.*

523. Forward.

Marching in line: 1. *As skirmishers*, 2. MARCH.

The front rank man second file (Par. 521) moves straight to the front or in the direction indicated by the corporal.

The other men oblique to the right or left according as they are on the right or left of the second file, in-



creasing the cadence, each resuming the direction and cadence of the guide when at his interval (Par. 519) and on the alignment. The rear rank men follow or precede their file leaders on the line according as they gain intervals to the right or left.

When the squad arrives upon the line to be occupied, the corporal halts it by the commands: 1. *Squad*, 2. **HALT**.

524. By the flank:

Being in line at a halt: 1. *As skirmishers*, 2. **MARCH**. The base (Par. 521) stands fast; the other men move rapidly to the right or left, according as they are on his right or left, each man halting on the line when he has gained his interval.

#### *To Increase and Diminish Intervals.*

525. Being deployed as skirmishers, to increase or diminish intervals: 1. *To (so many) paces, extend (or close)*, 2. **MARCH**.

The skirmishers open from or close toward the guide.

If marching, the movement is executed by obliquing and increasing the cadence; if at a halt, the movement is executed by the flank.

#### *Marchings.*

526. Being deployed and halted, to move forward: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**.

The skirmishers take the direction and keep their intervals from the side toward the guide.

527. Being deployed at a halt or advancing to march to the rear: 1. *To the rear*, 2. **MARCH**.

The men face about and march to the rear conforming to the principles of the march to the front. The corporal moves quickly in front of the guide.

To march again to the front: 1. *Forward*, 2. **MARCH**.

528. To march by the flank: 1. *By the right (or left) flank*, 2. **MARCH**.

At the command *march*, each man faces to the right and follows the man in his front. The corporal moves quickly beside the leading man to conduct him. (See Par. 516.)

To march again in line: 1. *By the left (or right) flank*, 2. **MARCH**.

529. The squad being in march to the front, rear, or by the flank, is halted by the commands: 1. *Squad*, 2. **HALT**.

530. The squad being deployed, to change front or direction, the corporal indicates the direction and commands: 1. *Squad right (or left)*, 2. **MARCH**; or, 1. *Right (or left) turn*, 2. **MARCH**, according as the squad is to halt or advance, executed as in Pars. 140 and 141, the skirmishers maintaining their intervals.

#### *To Rally.*

531. The rally is used for immediate and concentrated action when there is not time to form in the normal order. The rally should be made either on the line or in advance of it.

The corporal signals or commands: **RALLY**.

The men run toward the corporal and group themselves in single or double rank, in line, in circle, in semi-circle or in such other formation as he directs, and fix bayonet.

If the corporal continues to advance, the men form in rear of him in single or double rank as he directs, and follow him, fixing bayonet.

The squad being rallied may advance or deploy (Pars. 523 and 524); in deploying the skirmishers return to their former places.

#### *The Assembly.*

532. Being deployed or rallied, the corporal signals or commands: 1. *Assemble*, 2. **MARCH**.

The men move toward the corporal and form in their proper places.

If the corporal continues to advance, the men move in double time, form and follow him.

Assembling when faced or marching to the rear will not be executed.

533. When the preceding movements are well understood, they are executed at signals.

#### *Fire Discipline.*

534. The instructor will impress upon the men the importance of the following:

#### *General Rules.*

1. Never load until the movement for firing.
2. Never fire except when ordered, and then only the number of cartridges indicated.
3. Never fire after the command or signal: **CEASE FIRING**.

4. Never fire except at the named objective.
5. Never fail to adjust the sight at the range name.
6. Always aim at the feet of the enemy, or, if he is hidden from view, at the lower line of smoke.

535. Notwithstanding these rules, it is allowable, especially for scouts, to fire when necessary:

- 1st. To give the alarm.
- 2d. When a good opportunity occurs to fire upon a leader of the enemy.
- 3d. In self defense.

536. Individual men who may be acting beyond the immediate control of leaders will observe the following:

- They will not fire at distances over:
- 400 yards at a man lying down.
  - 500 yards at a man kneeling.
  - 600 yards at a man standing.
  - 700 yards at a horseman.
  - 800 yards at a small squad of men or a line of skirmishers.

Sharpshooters may, when permitted by an officer, fire upon the enemy at greater distances.

537. Volleys by squads are used against troops in close order, at distances not exceeding:

- 800 yards at a line equal to the front of a squad.
- 1,000 yards at a line equal to the front of a platoon.
- 1,200 yards at a line equal to the front of a company.

These limits are not invariable; they may be exceeded under favorable conditions when the range is accurately known, but should always be reduced when the men are tired or out of breath, the range uncertain, the enemy under cover or the conditions of wind and light unfavorable.

When the supply of ammunition is ample and the enemy is in large bodies, volleys may be fired at extreme ranges.

538. The fire at will and the fire with counted cartridges are used at distances ranging from 300 to 400 yards.

539. The rapid fire is used at short ranges, at the decisive moment of the action.

540. The ranges are classified as follows:

- 0 to 300 yards, short range.
- 300 to 600 yards, mid range.
- 600 to 1,400 yards, long range.
- 1,400 to 2,000 yards, extreme range.

#### *Firings.*

541. The instructor will give the closest attention to the execution of the firings, and always exact the most rigid fire discipline.

542. The firings are always executed at a halt. If the squad be in march, it halts at the preparatory command for firing, and loads and kneels or lies down if so specified in the command.

543. Volley firing is executed, the squad closed or de-

ployed, by the same commands and means as in close order. (Par. 146.)

More than three volleys will rarely be fired without intermission; this to allow the smoke to clear away, to steady the men and to prevent waste of ammunition.

544. To fire at will: 1. *Fire at will*, or, 1. *Fire at will, kneeling* (or *lying down*). 2. *At* (such an object), 3. *At* (so many) *yards*, 4. **COMMENCE FIRING**.

At the fourth command those skirmishers who can see the enemy, aim deliberately, fire, load and continue the firing until the command or signal: **CEASE FIRING**.

The corporal may permit a few men only, usually the best shots, to fire; for this purpose he calls the men by name and then gives the same commands as before; the intensity of the fire is thus regulated by varying the number of men firing.

545. To fire as skirmishers with counted cartridges: 1. *Fire one* (two or three) *rounds*, 2. *At* (such an object); 3. *At* (so many) *yards*, 4. **COMMENCE FIRING**.

At the fourth command, those skirmishers who can see the enemy open fire. Each man, after firing the number of cartridges indicated, executes *cease firing*.

To fire another series: **FIRE ONE** (TWO or THREE) **ROUNDS**.

The instructor will see that the number of cartridges indicated is never exceeded.

546. In the rapid fire, the number of cartridges is not limited; when used in advancing to the attack, the instructor orders bayonets fixed and sights laid down, and then commands: 1. *Rapid fire*, 2. **COMMENCE FIRING**.

The men fire straight to the front, at the feet of the enemy, and continue to fire until the command or signal: **CEASE FIRING**.

#### *Instruction on Varied Ground.*

547. The instruction at first will be individual; the movements will afterward be executed by the entire squad.

548. This instruction is directed by the company officers; it is given on ground which has been previously selected with reference to the movements to be executed. The location should be frequently changed to accustom the men to new situations, and care will be taken never to order movements at variance with the accidents of the ground.

549. Having conducted the squad to a point overlooking the vicinity, the instructor will call attention to the form of the ground and the different military purposes to which its features are adaptable, using and explaining the military terms that apply; he will require the men to point out the leading features of the country in sight or near their position, with all that concerns the streams, roads, woods, inhabited places, etc.

550. He will explain how to determine the points of the compass, the points of sunrise and sunset, the position of the sun at different hours of the day and the length of the shadows cast by objects, persons, etc.

#### *Use of Cover.*

551. The instructor must impress upon the men that they must take positions from which they can best see and fire upon the enemy.

552. The best kind of cover is that which, while it masks the skirmishers from the sight and fire of the enemy, affords favorable conditions for firing and for readily advancing and retiring.

553. In order to obtain a rest for the rifle, and at the same time expose the least part of the body while aiming, the instructor explains the following methods:

Take post preferably behind the right of walls, rocks, heaps of stone or earth, and in the windows and doorways of the houses on the left side of a street; behind a tree, rest the rifle on a limb to the right or rest the forearm against the right side of the trunk.

Behind embankments of earth, in ditches and furrows, kneel, or lie down and rise slightly to fire; lie down in rear of a crest or the edge of a plateau, keeping the slope toward the enemy in view.

At the edge of a wood, where there is no ditch nor bank of earth, remain a little back from the edge, under the cover of the first trees.

The instructor explains how to prepare the crest of wall, and how to pierce loopholes or construct platforms when the wall is too high to fire over.

554. The instructor explains the circumstances under which each accident of the ground would be valuable as cover, and how to use it, both in its original condition and by modifying it, against an enemy supposed to be in a certain direction.

The recruits are then required to post themselves near points indicated, so as to be under cover and in position to fire upon a point about six hundred yards distant, indicated as the position of the enemy; each man selects his own position so as to have a good view of the objective, and sets his sight at the range indicated. The men then change places.

The exercise is repeated on different ground and with a different objective.

555. A well-instructed soldier or non-commissioned officer is then placed in the position of the enemy and required to advance upon the skirmishers; the latter will carefully observe his movements and aim at him whenever he exposes himself, adjusting the sight to agree with the distance. (Par. 536.)

556. When the recruits have learned to post themselves at points indicated by the instructor, they are exercised in selecting their own points, advancing from cover. The instructor sends a man to a point about six hundred yards distant to represent the enemy; a recruit is then directed to advance upon him. In order to keep out of sight of the enemy the recruit must make the best use of cover, but must not deviate too much from his direction; he must stoop and even creep or crawl, but, if possible, never lose sight of the enemy; open ground exposed to the fire of the enemy should be crossed at a run, by rushes of about thirty yards, then taking the lying position and raising the head in order to see the enemy. The rushes should not, as a rule, exceed fifty yards, else the skirmisher will be winded and unable to aim accurately.

In this manner he should advance to about 200 yards from the enemy, and nearer if the character of the ground permit.

The man representing the enemy may be provided with blank cartridges, and required to fire upon the skirmisher whenever he exposes himself sufficiently to afford a target (Par. 536).

557. When the recruits are well instructed in the use of cover, the movements are executed by squad.

The instructor points out the position of the enemy at least 600 yards distant, and states clearly the object of the movement. The corporal, as squad leader, gives the commands necessary.

#### *Battle Exercises.*

558. The squad executes on varied ground all the movements prescribed for close and extended order, special attention being given to the exercises in leading.

Those skirmishers who cannot hear or see the corporal, regulate themselves upon the nearest men, who may transmit the commands to them in a low tone.

When the squad is proficient in the movements in extended order, the enemy is either outlined or represented.

In general the fire is simulated; but it is important, in these exercises, that blank cartridges should frequently be used.

Both parties cease firing when within fifty yards of



each other; if they are deployed as skirmishers the attacking party may be ordered to charge; the men in each squad pass through the intervals in the other, each man passing to the right of the man directly in his front; both squads halt at the command of the instructor. The exercise may then be continued, the squads exchanging positions.

#### THE PLATOON.

##### General Rules.

559. The chief of platoon is the instructor.

Before forming line of squads or deploying, he designates the center squad of the firing line and indicates the point of direction to the leader of the base squad.

In forming line of squads or skirmishers the chiefs of sections at the preparatory command place themselves in rear of their base squads in line, or abreast of them in column; they see that the base squads keep the line of direction. The corporals take post in front of their squads in line, at the preparatory command for forming line of squads; in deploying as skirmishers they take or keep their places in ranks, retaining supervision of their squads.

One section may form the firing line, the other the support; or the entire platoon may be placed in the firing line.

The post of the chief of platoon is between the firing line and support.

The chief of a section in the firing line is posted six paces in rear of the center of his section; he must be on the alert for signals from his chief of platoon. The chief of a section in support places himself six paces in front of his section.

The support halts until the firing line has advanced about 150 yards, or if the deployment be made by the flank, marches that distance to the rear, unless cover be found nearer.

If halted, it stands, kneels or lies down, according to the nature of the cover; on open ground it may deploy.

Marching by the flank under fire should be avoided.

##### Line of Squads.

560. The normal interval between squads is about fifteen paces; when a greater or less interval is to be taken, it will be stated in the commands:

Marching in line, to form line of squads: 1. *Line of squads.* 2. *On (such) squad.* 3. **MARCH.**

The corporal of the base squad leads it (Pars. 515-516) in the indicated direction; the corporals to the right of the base move their squads obliquely to the right; those to the left, obliquely to the left; each moves to the front when at his interval from the squad next toward the base.

When the base squad arrives on the line, the chief of platoon commands: 1. *Platoon.* 2. **HALT.**

The base squad halts; the others are halted on arriving on the line. On halting the corporals place themselves three paces in rear of their squads.

If marching in double time, or in quick time, and the command be *double time*, the base squad advances in quick time; the others move in double time and take the quick time on arriving on the line; the corporals keep their places in front of their squads.

If at a halt, the base squad stands fast; the others face and march away from the base squad; each corporal halts his squad when it has gained its interval.

##### Being in Column of Fours, to Form Line of Squads.

561. To the front: 1. *Right (or left) front into line of squads.* 2. **MARCH.** 3. *Platoon.* 4. **HALT.**

The movement is executed as in Par. 210; the corporals leading their squads to their proper places in line.

562. On the right or left: 1. *On right (or left) into line of squads.* 2. **MARCH.** 3. *Platoon.* 4. **HALT.**

Executed as in Par. 208, except that each corporal lead his squad to its proper place in line by the shortest route.

##### To Deploy as Skirmishers.

563. Being in line of squads: 1. *As skirmishers.* 2. **MARCH.**

Executed by each squad. (Pars. 523 and 524.)

These commands may be given at any time after the commencement of the movement to form line of squads; the squads that have their intervals deploy at once; the others when they gain their intervals.

564. In exceptional cases the platoon may be deployed in the same manner as a squad.

Being in line: 1. *As skirmishers on (such) squad.* 2. **MARCH.**

The deployment is made as in the squad (Pars. 523 and 524); number two front rank of the base squad being the base skirmisher; all the men of the line deploy on him; the squad leaders see that the men of their squads halt or march to the front as they individually gain their intervals.

##### To Increase and Diminish Intervals.

565. Being in line of squads: 1. *On (such) squad, to (so many) paces, extend (or close).* 2. **MARCH.**

The squads open from or close toward the base squad. If marching, the movement is executed obliquely; if at a halt, by the flank.

Being deployed as skirmishers: 1. *On (such) squad, to (so many) paces, extend (or close).* 2. **MARCH.**

The skirmishers to the right and left of number two front rank man of the base squad extend from or close toward him (Par. 525).

##### The Assembly.

566. The chief takes post where his platoon is to form, and signals or commands: 1. *Assemble.* 2. **MARCH.**

The squads move promptly toward him and re-form the platoon.

To assemble by squads: 1. *Assemble by squads.* 2. **MARCH.**

Executed by each squad (Par. 532).

567. To cause one or more squads to take a certain formation, the chief of platoon designates the squads and gives his orders.

##### Marchings.

568. Being in line of squads or skirmishers, the chief of platoon indicates the point of direction to the leader of the base squad and commands: 1. *Forward.* 2. *Guide right (left or center).* 3. **MARCH.**

The base squad marches in the given direction; the others march abreast of the base, keeping their intervals.

569. To march to the rear: 1. *To the rear.* 2. **MARCH.** 3. *Guide right (left or center).*

The chief of platoon indicates the point of direction to the leader of the base squad after the line has faced to the rear.

570. To make a slight change of direction, the chief of platoon indicates the new point of direction; the squads conform promptly to the movements of the base.

To make a considerable change, the chief of platoon indicates the new point of direction and commands: 1. *Change direction to the right (or left).* 2. **MARCH.**

The right squad, which is the base, changes direction as if alone (Par. 530), and halts; the others conform to the new alignment.

571. The platoon in line of squads or skirmishers is marched by the flank and again in line by the commands and means prescribed for the squad (Par. 528).

*Firings.*

572. The platoon and section, whether closed or extended, execute the firings as explained for the squad.

Volley firing may be used when the front is of such extent as to be controlled by the voice.

To fire by section or squad, the chief of platoon commands: 1. *Fire by section (or squad).* 2. (So many) *volleys*, indicates when desirable, the objective and range, and adds: 3. **COMMENCE FIRING.**

Each section or squad executes the firings as if alone. The corporals take part in the firing except when the fire is by squad.

The chief of platoon may designate one or more squads to fire.

573. A section constituting the firing line executes the preceding movements by the same commands and means, under the orders of the chief of section.

*Line of Sections.*

574. The normal interval between sections of three squads each is about forty-five paces; between sections of two squads each, about thirty paces.

The platoon forms line of sections, marches in this formation and increases and diminishes intervals between sections as explained for squads, substituting *section for squad* in the commands and explanations.

The section forms line of squads or skirmishers, rallies, assembles and executes the firings and all other movements in extended order as explained for the platoon.

*To Reinforce the Firing Line.*

575. When there are intervals in the firing line, either on the outer flanks or between the groups, the reinforcement is placed in these intervals. This method, called the group reinforcement, will be used when practicable.

Advancing, or being at a halt under cover, the firing line may diminish intervals toward one flank, the support deploying and moving up into the space made vacant.

Under a heavy fire the line may be reinforced by deploying the support on the march, the men of the support placing themselves on the line between the skirmishers; officers and non-commissioned officers take charge of their proportionate parts of the front, and the action progresses as if no mixing had taken place. This method should be used only when the emergency demands a prompt reinforcement above all other considerations.

*The Rally.*

576. The chief of platoon moves rapidly to the squad or place selected as a rallying point, and signals or commands: **RALLY.**

The firing line rallies as explained for the squad. The support approaches and selects a position from which it can render the most effective assistance.

To rally by sections, the chief of platoon commands: **RALLY BY SECTIONS**, and then joins one of the sections.

The chiefs of sections hasten to place themselves in the center of their sections, signal and repeat the command.

To rally by squads: **RALLY BY SQUADS.** The squad leaders make the signal; the chiefs of sections and platoons join the nearest squads.

When, as a result of reinforcing, sections and squads are mixed, each group rallies on the chief who commands it at the time.

As soon after rallying as practicable, the platoon is assembled or again deployed.

**THE COMPANY.**

577. In battle formation, when part of a battalion, the company is in two echelons, a firing line and a support. In battalion, the fighting front of a company is usually twice its front in close order.

Acting alone, the company is in three echelons; a firing line, a support and a reserve.

The distances between these echelons vary with the nature of the ground and the effectiveness of the enemy's fire.

578. On the offensive, the company acting alone may place at first only one section in the firing line, with one in support, the other two constitute the reserve.

On the defensive, two sections constitute the firing line, one the support and one the reserve.

579. As a rule the sections to be designated for the firing line are the center sections in line, or the leading sections in column or line of columns. A platoon may be designated for the firing line.

580. The company forms lines of squads or sections, deploys as skirmishers, increases and diminishes intervals, assembles, rallies and executes the marchings and firings by the commands and means prescribed for the platoon.

*Positions and Duties of Officers.*

581. The captain is the instructor. He takes post between the firing line and the support, or, if the formation be in three echelons, near the support. He designates the sections for the firing line, support and reserve, directs the action of the whole company, controls the reinforcement of the firing line and keeps up the supply of ammunition, regulating distribution and expenditure. His orders given by word of command, signals or delivered by orderlies, are directed to the commanders of the firing line, support and reserve. A musician remains with the captain.

The first lieutenant commands the reserve, if there be one, otherwise the support.

The second lieutenant commands the firing line when it consists of only one section, or of one section from each platoon.

The third lieutenant, if there be one, may be assigned by the captain; if the formation be in three echelons, he usually commands the support.

The first sergeant, if not in command of a platoon or echelon, takes post near the captain.

If the firing line consist of an entire platoon, it is commanded by its own lieutenant; the other lieutenant commands the reserve or support.

When the whole company is in the firing line each lieutenant commands his own platoon.

The commander of the firing line is ten paces in rear, and the commanders of the support and reserve ten paces in front of the centers of their respective echelons.

The commander of the reserve maintains communication with the support and with the captain, sending forward men to act as messengers and repeat signals.

The commanders of echelons give the commands necessary for the execution of the orders of the captain; they give their special attention to the control and direction of the fire and to maintain cohesion and concert of action.

582. Before forming for attack or defense, the commander of a force acting alone makes the reconnaissance necessary to determine the best disposition to be made. Commanders of companies and larger units forming part of larger commands throw out scouts in their immediate vicinity.

The number of scouts depends upon the nature of their duties and the extent and character of the front. The commander will give them such specific instructions as circumstances require.

Scouts sent out in front of the firing line convey information acquired by means of signals previously agreed upon.

*These rules are general.*



## THE OFFENSIVE.

*The Company in Battalion.*

583. When first coming within the zone of artillery fire, the company is formed in line and advances until the artillery fire becomes effective (on open ground about 2,500 yards from the enemy).

The captain then orders a few scouts sent forward (usually from the sections to be in support), designates the non-commissioned officers to command them, indicating the objective to him and to the chiefs of platoons and sections.

The scouts must advance at an increased gait unless the company be halted.

The captain then designates two sections, preferably the second and third, for the firing line; the first and fourth for supports; gives the necessary instructions for the extension, and when the scouts have gained about 150 yards to the front, commands: 1. *Form for attack*, 2. **MARCH**.

The second lieutenant places himself in rear of the center, designates the center squad and commands: *Guide center*.

The first lieutenant commands: 1. *First and fourth sections*, 2. **HALT**.

The chiefs of sections designate their sections and repeat the cautions necessary.

The second and third sections move forward; the corporal of the base squad advancing in the direction indicated.

When the firing line has advanced about 200 yards, the first lieutenant puts the support in march; each chief of section in the support so directs his base squad as to keep his section in rear of the outer flank of the firing line.

584. At about 1,400 yards the firing line forms line of sections and continues to move forward.

At about 1,200 yards, it forms line of squads.

At about 900 yards, it deploys as skirmishers.

To avoid the mixing of sections and squads, each, while seeking cover, should keep within the deploying limits of its proper front.

585. At 800 yards, or less, the scouts may find it necessary to halt and await the arrival of the firing line.

Firing will be delayed as long as possible, though the captain may order volleys to be fired upon bodies of the enemy that expose themselves, or individual sharpshooters may be directed to fire. When the advance should no longer continue without firing, the captain directs the number of volleys to be fired at each halt. (See Par. 543.)

586. The commander of the firing line gives the commands for the volleys; he must never exceed the number directed by the captain; but may reduce the number or omit the firing to avoid a mere waste of ammunition.

587. During this portion of the advance, the firing line will close upon its center, in order to make space for the supports to come up on the outer flanks.

The support has been drawing nearer to the firing line without waiting for orders, taking the formations most favorable for reinforcing, keeping under cover as far as practicable.

588. The firing line may advance from cover to cover by rushes, executed by the whole line, if possible, or by alternate sections.

589. The arrival of supports upon the line should usually be the signals for a rush forward.

590. When the line has approached within about 500 yards of the enemy's position, alternate rushes will probably be necessary; the lieutenant gives the instructions while the men are lying down or behind cover,

and then commands: 1. *Advance by rushes*, 2. *Third (or second) section fire two (or three) volleys*, 3. *Second (or third) section forward*.

The chief of the third section gives the commands for the volleys.

The instant the first volley is fired the chief of the second orders his section forward at double time; having advanced about fifteen yards, or to cover, if there be any, he halts it by the commands: 1. *Fire two (or three) volleys (kneeling or lying down)*, and completes the commands for the volleys.

The instant of the delivery of the first volley by the second section, the third moves forward at double time about fifteen yards in advance of the line occupied by the second. The third section then fires the specified number of volleys, the second advances about fifteen yards beyond the third, and so on; the attack is thus continued, each section advancing under cover of the fire and smoke of the other; the base squad keeping the line of direction.

591. Volleys will be used to the last practicable moment. The chiefs of sections and the squad leaders assist in maintaining the strictest fire discipline.

592. During this period of the attack, as soon as it becomes necessary to increase the intensity of the fire, the captain sends forward the supports to reinforce the firing line.

The sections of the support reinforce the sections of their own platoons, advancing under cover of their fire and taking position so as to join in the next rush.

In moving forward to join the firing line, the supports move rapidly in order to avoid loss, and reinforce as in Par. 575.

The first lieutenant moves forward with the first section, and each lieutenant takes command of his own platoon; the rushes may then be made by platoon.

In emergencies the commander of the support may reinforce without waiting for orders.

593. As the company approaches the enemy's position the captain selects favorable ground from which to make the assault, and having attained this position commands: *Rapid fire*.

Platoon commanders then order bayonets fixed, caution the men to lay down the sights, and commands: 1. *Rapid fire, kneeling*, 2. **COMMENCE FIRING**.

If any of the supports have not been brought up, they join the line at the command *rapid fire*.

To charge, the captain signals: **CEASE FIRING**, and commands: 1. *To the charge*, 2. **MARCH**.

The men rise and advance in double time.

Having arrived at about thirty yards from the enemy's position, the captain commands: **CHARGE**.

The men charge bayonet, quicken the pace and advance upon the enemy.

Having driven the enemy from his position, the captain selects ground in front favorable for firing upon the retreating enemy, or for resisting a counter attack, and causes the assembly to be sounded, or if necessary, the rally.

In case of repulse, the captain at once prepares to renew the attack.

*Relieving the Firing Line.*

594. In the exceptional cases in which the firing line must be relieved, the captain notifies the firing line and gives orders to the support which is to replace it.

The support deploys so as to complete the movement in rear of the line and moves up into the intervals, or passes through the firing line, which is then marched to the rear and assembled.

If the line is marching to the rear, the captain orders the support to deploy; the firing line passes through the line thus formed, is assembled and becomes the support or a part of it.

*The Company Acting Alone.*

595. The captain determines upon the direction and character of the attack and indicates the rallying point.

The attack is conducted on the principles explained for the company in battalion.

The firing line makes the front attack; the support reconnoiters and protects the flanks, and supports the front attack; the reserve, according to circumstances, makes a flank attack or participates in the front attack.

When the support is absorbed in the firing line, the reserve, which has been drawing nearer during the advance, should be about 150 yards from the firing line.

The action from this stage is conducted as for the company in battalion; the reserve reinforcing the firing line as prescribed for the support.

Having driven the enemy from position, a part or even the whole of the company should be used to pursue him unless pursuit would endanger advantages already gained.

**THE DEFENSIVE.***The Company in Battalion.*

596. When the captain is ordered to occupy a defensive position, he conducts his company to the point selected and sends forward scouts, who connect with those from the adjacent companies.

The captain indicates to each subdivision the position it is to occupy and the defensive work to be constructed, such as abatis, shelter trenches, etc.

The division and formation of the company are, in general, the same as on the offensive.

To secure superiority of fire, a company may have three sections in the firing line and one in the support from the beginning of the action.

The first resistance of the scouts should be for the purpose of causing the enemy to deploy and disclose his intentions. The captain then orders the battle formation.

Fire is opened as soon as it can be made effective.

Certain subdivisions may be designated to fire upon the enemy's supports and reserves.

The firing line is reinforced as in Par. 575.

When the enemy arrives at about 500 yards from the position, the support is habitually absorbed in the firing line, and the defense is continued with the assistance of the battalion reserve.

If the enemy be repulsed, the company takes the offensive.

If the enemy succeed, the company withdraws and forms at the rallying point.

*The Company Acting Alone.*

597. Depending upon the distance of the enemy, the company arrives at the position in battle formation or in order of march.

In the first case, the firing line is established on the position to be defended; the support and reserve are placed under cover; patrols are sent out in front and upon the flanks to reconnoiter.

In the second case, the advance guard halts at the position and sends scouts and small patrols out in front and upon the flanks. The captain makes his preliminary dispositions as explained for the company in battalion; then takes the battle formation.

The captain disposes the support and reserve so as to protect the flanks of the firing line.

The supports, either wholly or in part, may be placed in the firing line from the very beginning of the engagement, in order to secure superiority of fire and a front at least equal to that of the attack.

The captain keeps a portion of his reserve in hand, to

execute a counter attack at the moment the enemy reaches the position, or to cover the retreat.

Advantage should be taken of every opportunity to make short and energetic counter attacks upon the weak points of the enemy's line. When the enemy is repulsed, he should be damaged as much as possible by increased energy of fire and should be pursued unless this would compromise the security of the position.

If necessary to retreat, the captain disposes the remainder of his reserve in such position as to most readily hold the enemy in check, near one of the flanks, if possible; the firing line unmask the reserve and takes position in rear of it, the reserve protects the retreat of the firing line and retires in turn under its protection.

The company thus retires from position to position; it is assembled and placed in column of route when out of range of the enemy.

Unless ordered to the contrary, a position should not be abandoned except in the last extremity.

*Action Against Cavalry.*

598. As a principle, the advance or attack of infantry should not be checked by the appearance of cavalry. The latter should be kept at a distance by means of volleys executed by subdivisions designated for this purpose.

If in line, and attacked in front, the company should receive the charge without changing its formation. If attacked in flank, the company, or a part of it on the threatened flank, changes front to face the attack.

If in battle formation, and cavalry attack as foragers or in mass, it is better to receive the attack at a halt, than to rally. Only such dispositions are made as will quickly develop the greatest intensity of fire. If attacked in front, the firing line opens fire; the sections of the support are placed in rear of the flanks, to guard the latter, and fire upon the horsemen who envelope them. If attacked in flank, the sections of the support and reserve face so as to find themselves arranged in echelon ready to protect the threatened flank by their fire. If attacked by echelon, the fire will not be directed upon a fraction already repulsed, but upon the one following it.

In a personal encounter the foot soldier should gain the left flank of the horseman.

*Defense and Attack of Artillery.*

599. Infantry under artillery fire, seeks to lessen its effect by appropriate formations and use of cover.

*Defense.*

600. A commander of infantry supports the batteries in his vicinity.

Artillery separated from the other arms is furnished with a special support.

An infantry support for artillery protects the flanks and rear of the batteries and opposes the enemy's infantry or cavalry acting against them; it is usually posted on the flanks.

*Attack.*

601. The company is disposed as for the attack of a position, but the firing line may be deployed as skirmishers at a greater distance and the front may be more extended; the rear echelons, if need be, are also deployed.

When artillery is in motion, the fire is directed preferably upon the horses.

**THE BATTALION.**

602. The principles of instruction for the squad, platoon and company in extended order apply.

603. The battalion is formed for battle in three echelons; a firing line, a line of supports and a reserve.



In battalion, the firing line and supports together are designated the *fighting line*; it may be composed of one, two or even three companies.

#### *Extension.*

604. Whatever be the formation of the battalion, the major designates the company or companies to form the fighting line and those for the reserve, gives instructions for forming line of sections, or squads, or deploying as skirmishers, indicates the point of direction and the object of the movement, and commands: 1. *Form of attack*, 2 (Such) *the base company*, 3. **MARCH.**

The captains of companies for the fighting line designate the sections for supports, and cause their companies to advance in the given direction and take the battle formation. The firing line extends as directed by the major and according to the principles explained for the company.

The extension completed, there should be in the line of skirmishers an interval of about fifteen paces between the companies, which they should preserve during the advance.

The reserve is held about 300 yards in rear of the line of supports.

The fighting front of a battalion in regiment should not exceed one and one half times the front of the battalion in close order.

The major posts himself where he can best observe and direct the progress of the action, which is usually between the line of supports and the reserve; if he quits this place, he leaves a man there to tell where he can be found.

The senior officer with the reserve companies takes command of them when they are united in close order.

Mounted officers dismount when the battalion opens fire; the horses are taken back to the reserve of the regiment.

When the color of the regiment is with a battalion that takes the battle formation, it joins the regimental reserve, whose commander either directs it to join a certain company or detaches a guard to remain with the color during the action.

#### *Marchings.*

605. The battalion in battle formation regulates its march as explained for marching in line. The base squad keeps the line of direction independently of the movements of the companies, under the supervision of the squad leader and the chief of section to which this squad belongs; if the companies for any reason are obliged to give way they regain their places as soon as possible.

The supports and reserve conform to the movements of the firing line.

It is important that the line of direction should be correctly determined before taking up the advance; if, however, changes of direction become necessary they are made gradually by slightly changing the direction of the base squad from time to time.

#### *Relieving and Reinforcing the Firing Line.*

606. These movements are executed on the principles explained for the company, either as ordered by the major, or, in each company, by its captain. Relieving skirmishers is, however, an exceptional movement.

#### *Assembling and Rallying.*

607. When no longer compelled to remain in extended order, the major assembles the battalion.

The major may order one or more, or even all the companies in the firing line, to rally.

The reserve approaches and selects a favorable position for supporting the companies that have rallied.

### THE BATTALION IN ACTION.

#### *General Rules.*

608. The major regulates the progress of the action, sees that the firing line advances upon the indicated objective, hastens or delays the reinforcement by the supports, and disposes the reserves so as to guard against surprise; leaving the execution of details to his subordinates, he exercises a general control, and endeavors constantly to increase the energy of the action.

When necessary, he indicates what measures are to be taken to assure the occupation of the position, but should leave to each commander the discretion necessary to enable him to profit by all circumstances.

Each captain in the fighting line regulates the march of the line within the limits assigned him, determines the distances to be passed over in rushes, and brings his support upon the firing line, pursuant to orders, or without orders if the necessities of the moment require; he directs the fire and regulates its intensity.

#### THE OFFENSIVE.

##### *The Battalion in Regiment.*

609. When the major receives orders to attack, he gives instructions (Par. 604), and commands: 1. *Form for attack*, 2 (Such) *the base company*, 3. **MARCH.**

The companies in the fighting line conform to what has been prescribed for the company.

The reserve conforms to the movements of the fighting line, and, without waiting for orders, gradually draw nearer, so as to be ready to replace the supports when the latter have been absorbed, the reserve companies taking the battle formation.

The attack is made as prescribed for the company. When the firing line is about 500 yards from the enemy's position, the first echelon of the reserve is about 100 yards and the second about 200 yards in rear of the firing line.

When the major thinks necessary he places one or more platoons of the reserve in the firing line. At about 200 yards from the enemy bayonets are fixed and the rapid fire is opened; the last of the reserve, in rear of the point at which the main effort is to be made, is held in readiness to reinforce the line.

The battalion in the second line of the regiment draws nearer so as to replace the battalion reserve if necessary, and takes part in the charge.

If the rapid fire does not shake the enemy, the remainder of the battalion reserve is quickly brought up, and another rush made, followed by the rapid fire.

During this fire the battalion of the second line reinforces the firing line; at the signal from the colonel, the field music sounds the charge and the whole line rushes upon the enemy.

As soon as the position has been carried, the firing line advances until it has found a position favorable for firing upon the enemy. The parts of the reserve not in the firing line hold themselves in readiness to pursue the enemy or to resist a counter attack.

The first opportunity is taken to assemble the companies on the captured position. The major forms the battalion and disposes his troops so as to secure the position, and to pursue the enemy, if ordered.

If repulsed, the line rallies under the protection of the reserve.

##### *The Battalion Acting Alone.*

610. The action is conducted on the general principles explained for the battalion in regiment; the front may be more extended, but the major must be able to direct the action and secure the increasing power of the successive efforts. If the strength of his command war-

rants it, he may attack both in front and flank. He must cover his flanks and secure his line of communication.

The enemy having been located, the major makes his dispositions for attack.

If the attack succeeds, the battalion takes position and fires upon the enemy, as explained for the battalion in regiment, and, if opportunity offers, will pursue the enemy (Par. 595).

If repulsed, the rally is protected by the parts of the reserve that have not been engaged.

#### DEFENSIVE.

##### *The Battalion in Regiment.*

611. The reconnoissance and occupation of the position are made on the principles explained for the company acting alone under the protection of the patrols commanded by one or more officers; these patrols not only endeavor to discover the enemy's position and direction of attack, but also keep his scouts and reconnoitering parties at a distance.

As a rule, the battle formation is the same as on the offensive. When it is desirable to have an extended and dense firing line from the start, the two companies in the fighting line may be directed to keep but one section each in support. The same result is obtained by placing three companies in the fighting line, each having two sections in support.

The line of defense is in general determined by the configuration of the ground; the points that command a clear field of fire in front and afford cover should usually be strongly occupied. The different parts of the front should be able to assist each other, and should not be separated by impassable obstacles.

If time and circumstances permit, the position is strengthened by hasty entrenchments.

The strong points in the line, such as woods, fences, buildings, rising ground, etc., are placed in a state of defense or strengthened by field works; in the selection of these points the chief consideration is a clear field of fire toward the front and flanks.

The strong points are connected by shelter trenches, intervals being left to facilitate counter attacks and for passing from the defensive to the offensive.

The action is conducted according to the principles explained (Par 596).

The dispositions of the rear echelons of the battalion depend upon the movements of the assailant; the defender uses every means to overwhelm by fire such bodies of the enemy as remain in close order; the supports are placed in the firing line in proportion to the necessities of the case. Troops in rear, firing over the heads of those in front, should use volleys only.

When all the supports are in the firing line and the enemy probably within 500 yards of the position, a part of the reserve reinforces the line; the other part is held ready either to add the effect of its fire to that of the line or to assist in the counter attack when the offensive is taken up.

In the last stage of the action, the firing line may, if necessary, be reinforced by the entire reserve.

If retreat becomes necessary, it is conducted as prescribed for the company. When all the battalion reserves have been absorbed on the firing line, the troops in the second line take position and protect the battalion while rallying, or, by an energetic counter attack, endeavor to gain the ascendancy.

When, in obedience to orders, resistance is not to be carried to the last extremity, the retreat is executed by echelons from position to position.

##### *The Battalion Acting Alone.*

612. The general principles stated for the company acting alone apply to the battalion.

The battalion should not deploy before the enemy's position is known.

The battalion takes position and prepares to receive the attack, observing the following conditions:

The front must be sufficiently occupied and extended from the beginning of the action; this will usually require two companies in the fighting line; the other two companies are held in reserve, in rear of the supports, covering the flanks and extending beyond them.

When the supports have been absorbed in the firing line, they are replaced by the reserve companies, which are disposed so as to protect the flanks.

When the front of the position is very strong, a relatively greater part of the command may be placed in the reserve to insure more decisive effect in counter attacks.

#### DISPOSITIONS OF A BATTALION.

##### *Operating on a flank of a Line.*

613. The special object may be to secure the flank, to envelope the enemy's flank, or to engage the enemy at one point, while the regiment or brigade prepares and executes the principal attack at another. In these different cases the major conforms to the principles laid down for the offensive or defensive action of the battalion in regiment, as the case may require.

##### *As Advance Guard of a Regiment.*

614. The advance guard acts offensively or defensively according to circumstances. Its action is subordinate to that of the main body; it should carefully avoid becoming so involved as to compel the latter to depart from its original purpose. The battalion as advance guard acts on the offensive as prescribed for the battalion acting alone; on the defensive it may take the battle formation with three or even four companies, at the first indication of the presence of the enemy; the strong points are occupied and the front extended as much as necessary to prevent being outflanked.

If the enemy without attacking shows himself in force the battalion occupies the strong points.

##### *As Rear Guard of a Regiment.*

615. The object of the rear guard is to retard the enemy so as to enable the main body to gain time or distance; it acts chiefly on the defensive.

If the battalion as rear guard be attacked, it will not carry resistance so far as to be cut off from the main body.

Advantage is taken of any want of precaution on the part of the enemy to draw him into ambush or to make sudden, short and energetic offensive returns.

The rear guard may sometimes take the offensive, for example: When it is guarding a defile during the passage of the main body, or when opposing the egress of the enemy at the outlet of a pass.

The rear guard should not fight to extremity except to secure the safety of the main body.

##### *Against Cavalry.*

616. The principles stated for the company apply to the battalion.

If there be time, the major may place the companies in echelon.

To this end he indicates the base company, the interval and distance which should separate the echelons and the relative positions of the companies.

The base company stands fast; the others are rapidly led by their captains to the places they are to occupy.

The echelons are formed by advancing companies on the flank farthest from the enemy's artillery; they are disposed in such a manner as to afford the heaviest possible fire without risk of firing into one another.



## ARTILLERY.

617. For the company apply to the battalion.

*Defense.*

618. The companies are posted in front of the intervals between groups of batteries and on the flanks, so as not to hinder the fire of the artillery; they are held ready to meet the attack.

*Attack.*

619. The battalion is disposed as for the attack of a position (Par. 610); the parts advance in echelons in close order and thin lines; the advance is led on as rapidly as possible and the attack precipitated when within a short distance of the guns.

The action is conducted according to the general principles explained for the company, and the attacks should be made against a flank if possible.

If the artillery be supported by infantry, the major directs against the latter a sufficient force to silence its fire, and uses the remainder of his battalion against the artillery.

*Night Operations.*

620. To be successful, a night attack should be a surprise; it should be prepared secretly, avoiding indications that might attract the attention of the enemy.

Once engaged, it is necessary to act vigorously and promptly.

It is essential to operate over ground known in advance.

It is equally important that the leaders of the different units be carefully instructed as to the parts they are to take, the field assigned them, the rallying points and the line of retreat.

On the offensive, the troops usually operate in compact formation, so as to be kept in hand and to prevent misunderstandings.

Under cover of darkness the assailant approaches, in order and silence, and without firing, as near as possible

to the enemy's position; he then assaults resolutely, not replying to the fire, and comes as quickly as possible to the encounter, hand to hand.

On the defensive, when a night attack is expected, the position is reinforced by troops or strengthened by obstacles or hasty entrenchments; the positions to be occupied by the different units are indicated and understood beforehand.

After the opening of the action, all movements which could produce disorder or confusion are avoided.

The fire is directed particularly upon the approaches to the position.

## THE REGIMENT.

621. The principles explained for the battalion apply.

A battalion in battle formation is said to be in the fighting line when it has any part in the firing line. This rule applies to larger commands.

The regiment is formed for battle in two or three lines depending upon the extent of front to be occupied; this should not exceed the front of the regiment formed in one line in close order increased by one-half the interval between it and the adjacent regiments.

When in two lines, two battalions constitute the fighting line; the other is posted as reserve about six hundred yards in rear.

When in three lines, one battalion forms the fighting line, one about six hundred and the other about twelve hundred yards in rear.

The reserve may be posted in rear of the center, or in rear of one or both flanks.

The colonel takes post near the center of the line of the battalion reserves of the fighting line; if called elsewhere he indicates his position.

He superintends the action and directs the majors of battalions in reserve when to reinforce.

Unless he specifies the formations for battalions in reserve, the majors adopt the formations they deem best suited to the ground and other circumstances.

